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THE TIMES OF INDIA

CELEBRATING ENVIRONMENT DAY

INCLUDES 8 PAGES OF BANGALORE TIMES AND 6 PAGES OF TIMES PROPERTY* (*FOR CITY AREAS ONLY)

INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

Oscar-nominated **Iranian-French author Marjane Satrapi**, whose graphic novel series 'Persepolis' introduced readers to the struggles of ordinary Iranians during the turbulent years around the 1979 Islamic Revolution, **dies**, P 14

Pahlaj Nihalani (76), who produced films introducing Govinda and Chunky Panday and later courted controversies during his tenure as CBFC chief until his eventual sacking, **dies of liver ailment**, P 5

Republican-controlled House of Reps votes 215-208 to approve a **resolution aimed at preventing US President Donald Trump from continuing war against Iran** without congressional authorisation, P 14

With **SpaceX's record-breaking IPO in mid-June**, which will raise up to $75bn — 3 times more than Saudi Aramco's $25.6bn IPO in 2019 — **Elon Musk's net worth will cross $1 trillion**, making him history's first trillionaire, P 14

20-day window with discount to clear traffic fines

Motorists in Karnataka will get a 20-day window, from June 21 to July 10, to clear pending traffic and transport department violations by paying just 50% of the penalty amount. Vehicle owners can pay pending e-challans and cases registered by the transport dept between 1991 & 2022. TNN

US House votes to end Iran war

The Republican-led US House of Representatives approved a resolution 215-208 on Wednesday to block President Trump from continuing the war against Iran, reflecting growing concern among members of his party about the conflict. For now, the vote is largely symbolic, as legislation must pass the Senate as well as the House to become effective. P 14

Precision strike on breast cancer

Researchers at Pune-based Agharkar Research Institute have engineered nanoparticles that switches off genes that help tumours evade death and resist treatment in breast cancer. It has succeeded in mice but has not been tried on humans. P 5

Will skip INDIA bloc meet, says DMK

DMK is no longer part of INDIA bloc, party spokesman TKS Elangovan said Thursday. He made the statement hours after DMK issued a statement saying the party would not participate in the June 8 meeting in Delhi. P 16

No guarantee rollback, but CM orders beneficiary verification

'Gruha Jyothi And Lakshmi Most Misused'

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Bengaluru: "There will be no rollback of the welfare schemes," said chief minister D K Shivakumar while ordering a statewide review of beneficiaries under the Congress govt's flagship guarantee programmes during his first meeting with senior officials after assuming office Thursday. The review aims to identify and weed out ineligible recipients from the schemes, he stressed.

The CM said complaints had been received regarding misuse of benefits, particularly under Gruha Jyothi and Gruha Lakshmi, making verification necessary.

"We have recorded 1.6 crore beneficiaries under the electricity scheme. We will scrutinise beneficiaries, their connections, and whether residential premises are being used for commercial purposes. Some have multiple electricity meters in their names," Shivakumar said after a marathon meeting with senior IAS and IPS officers at Vidhana Soudha. Complete beneficiary details, including tenant information, location, usage patterns, and contact numbers will be needed, the CM said.

▶FULL COVERAGE | P 2

DAY AFTER, DKS HITS TOP SPEED

- Asks govt officials to **adopt a positive, solution-oriented approach** when addressing public issues, grievances
- Announces **creation of anti-rowdy squads** in all taluks
- Says **financial status of the govt will be openly shared** with the Opposition
- Directs all govt departments **to prepare action plans within 15 days**
- Says **companies will have to submit records on CSR** contributions

CM Shivakumar holds his first Cabinet meeting in Vidhana Soudha Thursday

ON FREE POWER: We have recorded 1.6 crore beneficiaries under the electricity scheme. **We will be scrutinising those who avail it, their connections...** Some have multiple meters in their names

On GRUHA LAKSHMI: In some cases, money meant for beneficiaries has been **withdrawn even after the death of the person.** There must be proper checks

—DK Shivakumar

For 2026-27, the govt has earmarked Rs 51,286 crore for the five schemes. These include free power up to 200 units under Gruha Jyothi, Rs 2,000 monthly assistance for women heads of households under Gruha Lakshmi, an additional 5 kg rice per BPL member under Anna Bhagya, Rs 3,000 monthly unemployment allowance for graduates and Rs 1,500 for diploma holders under Yuva Nidhi, and free bus travel for women under Shakti scheme.

On Gruha Lakshmi, he flagged instances of irregular withdrawals. "In some cases, money meant for beneficiaries has been withdrawn even after their death. Officials and families must report deaths to ensure accountability and prevent misuse of the scheme," he added.

On corporate social responsibility (CSR) spending, he said the govt would ensure better utilisation of funds for education and health.

▶Submit CSR records, P 4

DKS: Will appoint a grievances minister to check corruption

CM Shivakumar Thursday announced two new secretariats to strengthen governance — one for public grievances and another for NRIs, **reports Pearl Dsouza**. A minister will be appointed for public grievances. Citizens facing administrative issues will be heard at least thrice a week; grievances will be examined for legality and facts. "Officials shouldn't face pressure from any caste or religion, or even from my office or those of ministers, present or past. The aim is a corruption-free govt."

DKS keeps finance; revenue & sports for DCM; B'luru devpt for Byre Gowda

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Bengaluru: After hours of intense negotiations and back-to-back parleys, portfolios were allocated to ministers in the DK Shivakumar-led Congress govt Thursday.

Shivakumar will handle finance, intelligence, department of personnel and administrative reforms and all other unallocated portfolios, while his deputy G Parameshwara has been allotted revenue, youth empowerment and sports. The governor's office approved the list of portfolios late Thursday night.

Bengaluru urban development, which saw hectic lobbying by 2-3 contenders, has been handed to Krishna Byre Gowda. He had been urging the party to allow him to retain the revenue portfolio he had held in the previous administration.

"I've done a lot of good work, but it is incomplete still. It will be good if I continue with that," he said. Now, he will handle the nascent GBA as part of his new portfolio.

MB Patil will continue to handle industries; KJ George retains energy and has been given additional charge of tourism. KH Muniyappa will continue to oversee food and civil supplies, and Ramalinga Reddy has been assigned water resources. Satish Jarkiholi will stay in charge of public works while Sharan Prakash Patil will handle skill development.

▶IT-BT portfolios, P 4

2 Union ministers don't figure among BJP's 11 RS picks

Buzz Of Cabinet Reshuffle Grows

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Union ministers Ravneet Singh Bittu and George Kurian do not figure among the 11 Rajya Sabha candidates named by BJP for the June 18 polls, a development that adds to the buzz about a reshuffle in council of ministers.

Kurian, the only Christian minister in the PM Modi-led govt, and Bittu are outgoing MPs from Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan respectively and did not find a place in the list from their state.

The buzz over the reshuffle has now further grown as two other state ministers, Pankaj Chaudhary and Harsh Malhotra, have already been vested with organisational responsibilities. Chaudhary is UP BJP president while Malhotra was recently made head of Delhi BJP. None of the outgoing RS MPs has been renominated. Debashish Samantaray, who quit BJD to join BJP, has been fielded for the Odisha bypoll.

▶2 mins quit in 2022, P 16

Kharge among Cong's 7 RS picks

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge is among seven candidates named by the party for the Rajya Sabha elections. Congress Thursday night announced that president Mallikarjun Kharge, senior leaders Pawan Khera and Mansoor Ali Khan are party candidates from Karnataka. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is scheduled to arrive in Bengaluru on Friday as Kharge and others file nominations at Soudha. Former LS MP Meenakshi Natarajan replaces Digvijaya Singh from MP. P 16

Monsoon sets in over Kerala, three days late

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New Delhi: Southwest (summer) monsoon set in over Kerala on Thursday, three days after its normal onset date, India Meteorological Department said. Monsoon normally sets in over Kerala on June 1, marking the beginning of four-month rainy season as well as Kharif sowing operations in India.

This is only the second time in past 22 years that IMD's operational forecast of monsoon's onset date has been off the mark — it had earlier predicted May 26 as the onset date, with a model error of +/- 4 days. The last time its prediction proved wrong was in 2015.

"The monsoon has further advanced into remaining parts of southwest and southeast Arabian Sea... entire Lakshadweep islands, Kerala and Mahe; some parts of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; remaining parts of Comorin area; southeast Bay of Bengal... on June 4."

▶May advance to South Karnataka in 2 days, P 4

▶8 days early last yr, P 6

A B'luru jeweller lands in Sebi crosshairs

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Bengaluru: Many in Karnataka know **Rajesh Mehta** for his Shubh, Laabh and Oyzterbay jewellery stores.

On Wednesday Sebi banned Mehta for inflating the company's revenues over several years to induce investors to invest in the stock.

▶Contests Sebi probe, P 13

The three brands, for a while, looked like they could together take on the might, and replicate the success of the other Bengaluru-headquartered national biggie – Tanishq. But that was not to be. As Mehta struggled with Sebi probes in the past few years, all of those brands wound down.

Oyzterbay shut down a long time ago, even before the investigations. Laabh went the same way. Just a few Shubh stores still operate.

And Mehta went back to focusing on what he had started with — gold refining, manufacturing, and trading. Mehta's roots trace back to a Gujarati family that migrated from Rajkot to Bengaluru shortly after Independence. His father, Jaswantrai Mehta, traded in semi-precious stones and later started Rajesh Diamond Company. The venture was named after Rajesh, the third of four sons, following an astrologer's prediction that he would bring prosperity to the family.

▶From a garage, P 13

India, Venezuela vow long-term energy ties

New Delhi: Amid ongoing Indian efforts to diversify its oil supplies, PM Narendra Modi met Venezuela's acting President Delcy Rodríguez and discussed ways to deepen the energy partnership, **reports Sachin Parashar**. The Latin American country, which tops the list of countries with largest oil reserves, has emerged in recent weeks as one of India's top crude suppliers.

Piyal Bhattacharjee

President Delcy Rodríguez with PM Modi on Thursday

While no agreement was signed, both sides focused on securing long-term energy contracts citing "perfect complementarity" in the energy sector. The PM said on X that they had extensive discussions on expanding ties in not just energy but also critical minerals, tech, agriculture, health and people-to-people ties. "As a valued partner in Latin America, our close ties with Venezuela holds immense importance for the Global South. We will continue to work together for the mutual benefit of the people," said the PM.

▶Venezuelan crude, P 16

Sherpa survives 6 days on Everest without food, oxygen cylinder

In what climbers are calling a miracle, a 52-year-old Sherpa guide who was presumed dead on Mount Everest after he vanished during descent on May 29, was found alive after six days near Base Camp on Thursday, **reports Vishant Agarwala**.

Dawa 'Hillary' Sherpa — who earned the moniker for his mountaineering expertise — covered more than 12km from Yellow Band (25,000ft) to Crampon Point (17,000ft) in difficult weather without food, water or supplemental oxygen, crossing the treacherous Khumbu icefall after the climbing season had ended and ropes and ladders on the route had been removed.

His family, having lost hope, was reading prayers for his last rites when they were told Dawa had survived, scavenging leftover tents for scraps of food, water and discarded bottled oxygen. Dawa was descending after summiting at 5pm on May 28 with a group that included UK climber Chris Thrall, a former Royal Marine, and a Polish climber when he was last seen near Yellow Band on May 29. Reports said the Polish climber reached Base Camp, but Dawa didn't.

▶Tiger of mountains, P 14

ICU inferno in Bihar kills five patients

A fire at the ICU on the fifth floor of a hospital in Bihar's Muzaffarpur killed five patients on Thursday. There were 27 patients undergoing treatment at the time of accident. P 5

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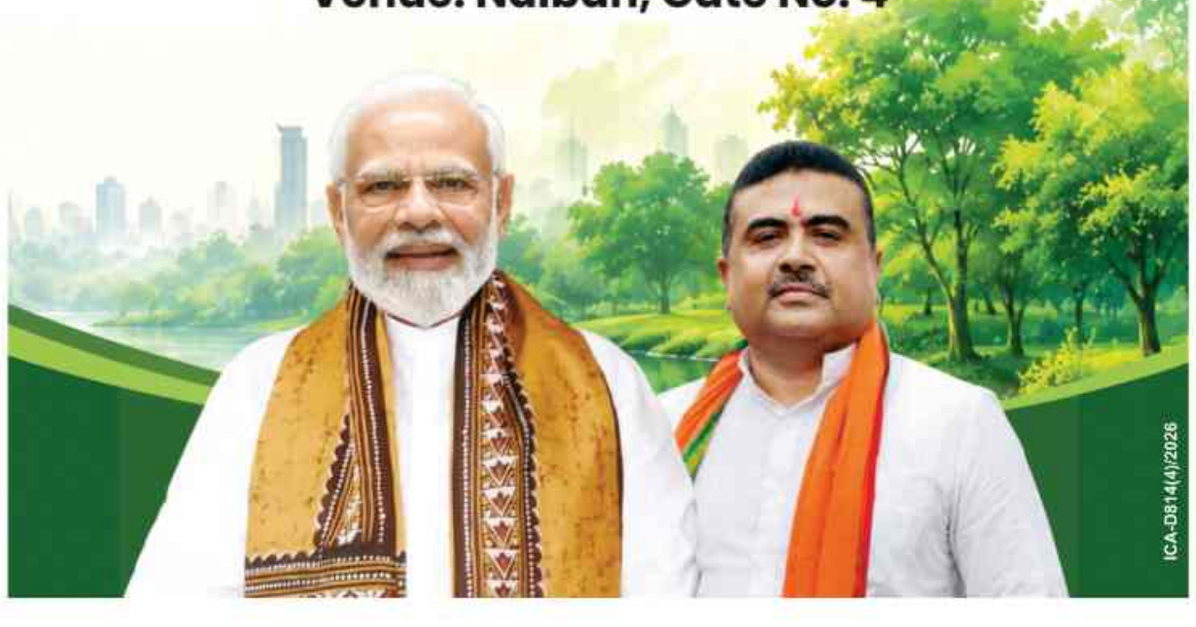

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Bangalore Times

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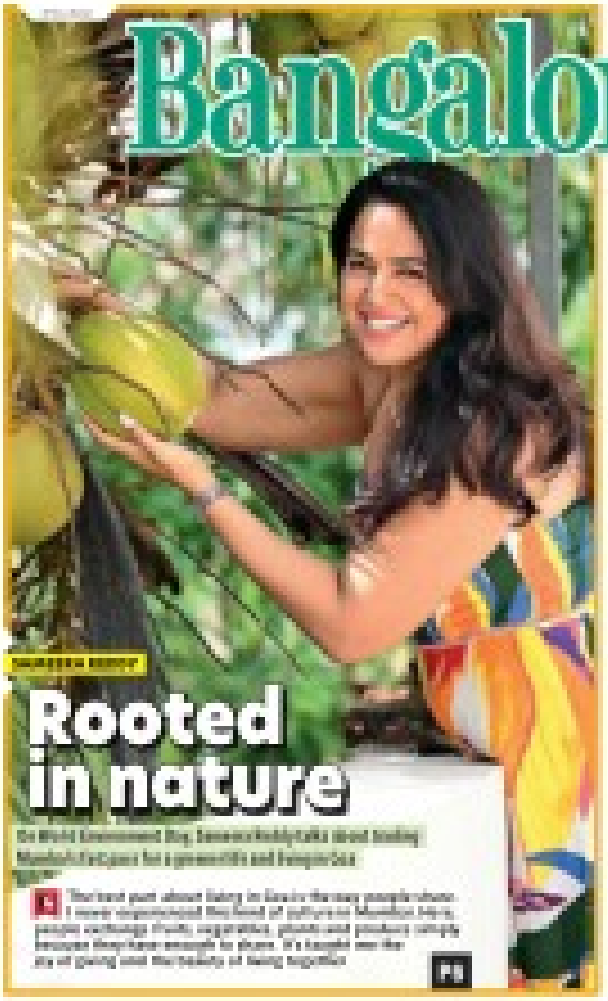

SHARDHA KAPOOR

Rooted in nature

On World Environment Day, Sonam Kohli talks about finding Mumbai's first space for a green life and Bangalore love

"The best part about living in Goa is the way people share. I never experienced this kind of culture in Mumbai. Here, people exchange fruits, vegetables, plants and produce simply because they have enough to share. It's taught me the joy of giving and the beauty of living together

P3

SHILPA SHINDE ON RETRACTING HER SEXUAL HARASSMENT ALLEGATION

'I wanted to come clean'

Actress who's starring in Bhabiji Ghar Par Hain now denies producer Sanjay Kohli of sexual harassment, the actress opens up about the shocker and the time

"It's a shameful lie to see your ex-in-laws announce 'I'm single.' Nina Gupta

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DUAL AUTHORITY? Hariprasad-Shivakumar Relationship Has Been Testy Recently | Will Next Round Of Cabinet Expansion Bear DKS' Stamp?

Early rumble shows Shiva-Hari equation may test Cong unity

TOI

FRIENDS AGAIN: Siddaramaiah met BK Hariprasad on Thursday and congratulated him on his appointment as KPCC president

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Bengaluru: For much of the past decade, new Karnataka Congress president BK Hariprasad was seen as being politically closer to DK Shivakumar than to Siddaramaiah. Both frequently found themselves on the same side of organisational battles when Siddaramaiah dominated the legislature wing and Shivakumar controlled the party apparatus.

Now, with Hariprasad taking over as KPCC president and Shivakumar moving to the CM's office, the focus is on how the two will navigate a relationship that has been strained in recent years.

Ironically, Hariprasad is said to have secured the post largely due to Siddaramaiah's backing. The former CM is said to have pushed for Hariprasad over minister Satish Jarkiholi, a move that has surprised many, especially given the long-standing political association between the former CM and Jarkiholi.

Political observers note that during the run-up to the 2023 elections, when Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar emerged as two distinct centres of authority in Karnataka Congress, Hariprasad was widely viewed as aligned with Shivakumar's camp. His strong organisational credentials and links with national party brass strengthened that perception. Then, the equation changed.

Independent voice

Hariprasad, who was among functionaries hoping to secure a cabinet berth, was left out of the Siddaramaiah govt in 2023. Initially, his criticism was directed largely at Siddaramaiah and his supporters, triggering sharp responses in return.

However, as the tussle between Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar intensified and the party split into camps, Hariprasad gradually positioned himself as an independent voice. In 2024, amid controversies surrounding the govt, he publicly called for accountability and raised concerns over issues affecting the party's image. He was increasingly viewed as part of a group of seniors seeking to stay above the Siddaramaiah-Shivakumar rivalry.

As the succession debate gathered momentum through 2025 and early 2026, Hariprasad's relationship with Shivakumar appeared to cool. Sources said he became increasingly critical of Shivakumar's dual role in party and govt and favoured a stronger role for senior functionaries.

Meanwhile, his ties with Siddaramaiah gradually warmed. As CM, Siddaramaiah twice visited Hariprasad's residence, and the shift became more evident during the recent CM transition. While Shivakumar secured the CM post, the Congress high command entrusted Hariprasad with the KPCC presidency. The move is widely viewed as an attempt to balance authority between the govt and the organisation while also preventing Jarkiholi from emerging as the party's organisational chief.

Going up against DKS?

Hariprasad reinforced that perception with his first remarks as KPCC president, suggesting those seeking power should go with Shivakumar. Though he clarified that he was merely referring to a division of responsibilities, the comments were interpreted as a signal that the party organisation would function independently of the govt.

Political strategist MB Maramkal cautioned that if the two fail to work together, it could create dual centres of authority within the party, making coordination between the govt and party organisation critical in future elections. "But it is too early to judge," he said.

5 KEY CHALLENGES HARIPRASAD FACES

Newly appointed state Congress president BK Hariprasad faces several challenges, the biggest of which could be coordinating with chief minister DK Shivakumar. He must also manage factional rivalries and balance interests of Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar loyalists, all the while preparing for the 2028 assembly elections. MANU AIYAPPA KANATHANDA analyses

Carving his own identity

Congress party's landmark assembly victory in 2023 under Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar puts Hariprasad under immediate pressure. Lacking a strong electoral track record, he will be judged on his ability to deliver results and command respect. With Shivakumar now CM and Siddaramaiah out of govt, he must establish himself as an effective leader without appearing confrontational. His early remarks on the relationship between power and organisation have already drawn attention, making it important for him to quickly define his leadership style and authority.

Balancing govt & party interests

The separation of the CM and KPCC president posts creates distinct centres of authority. He must ensure seamless coordination between the govt and organisation while maintaining harmony between supporters of Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah. Any perception of favouring one camp or the other could deepen factional divisions. He will have to address concerns of party workers, ensure access to ministers and keep senior functionaries engaged. Maintaining organisational unity while acting as a bridge between competing interests will be one of his most demanding responsibilities.

Preserving the Ahinda coalition

Congress' electoral strength in the state has largely rested on support from minorities, backward classes and Dalits under Siddaramaiah's Ahinda framework. From an OBC community himself, Hariprasad faces the task of retaining this support base while expanding the party's social appeal. Sustaining the coalition will require constant engagement with key communities, adequate representation and effective advocacy of their concerns. Any weakening of support among these groups could affect Congress' electoral prospects in upcoming elections and the 2028 assembly polls. Continuing the Ahinda legacy while adapting it to new political realities will be a big challenge.

Delivering victories in elections

Greater Bengaluru Authority, taluk and zilla panchayat polls will be Hariprasad's first major organisational tests. Candidate selection, factional management and grassroots mobilisation will require careful handling. Strong performances will strengthen his authority, while setbacks could trigger criticism. Beyond elections, he must revitalise Congress units at the booth, block and district levels, especially in weaker regions. Building an active organisational structure capable of matching the BJP's ground-level network will be crucial as the party prepares for the 2028 assembly elections.

Taking the fight to BJP & JD(S)

As KPCC president, Hariprasad becomes the party's principal organisational face against the BJP and JD(S). The opposition is expected to target the Congress govt on governance, corruption allegations and law and order issues. Hariprasad will need to coordinate effective political responses, energise party workers and sustain campaigns that highlight Congress' achievements while exposing opposition weaknesses. The challenge goes beyond media statements and requires building a strong statewide narrative. Successfully countering the opposition will be critical to preventing anti-incumbency and maintaining Congress' electoral momentum.

Want power? Go with DKS: Hariprasad

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Newly appointed KPCC president BK Hariprasad sparked political chatter Thursday by drawing a distinction between party organisation and govt.

Addressing Congress members on his first day in office, Hariprasad said: "Those who want power and position, go with DK Shivakumar. Those who want to strengthen Congress party and the hands of Sonia Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge, come with me."

He later clarified that his remarks only reflected the need to share responsibilities between the govt and party organisation, but by then they were interpreted as a challenge to the new CM.

The MLC, 71, who replaced Shivakumar as state Congress chief Wednesday, said Congress workers must strengthen the hands of Rahul Gandhi, Sonia, Priyanka Gandhi and Kharge by taking the party's fight to the streets.

Stressing that he had not sought a ministerial post, Hariprasad insisted he is a Congress worker committed to the party's ideology and Constitution. He said his experience from the block level to the national stage would help him lead the state unit.

He said his priority would be to fight what he called "removal of genuine voters" through the Special Intensive Revision and safeguarding the "idea of India". Accusing BJP and RSS of weakening democratic processes, he said he was confident Karnataka Congress would win the 2028 elections.

DKS' aides likely in 2nd round

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Bengaluru: While the first list of inductees into chief minister DK Shivakumar's council of ministers is widely viewed in political circles as carrying a strong imprint of his predecessor Siddaramaiah, attention is now on whether the next list would reflect the new CM's organisational influence within the party.

Party sources say the cabinet is likely to be expanded only after Rajya Sabha polls, scheduled for June 18. Of the 13 who took oath alongside Shivakumar Wednesday, 11 are from the Siddaramaiah-led govt. Eight ministers in the current list had also taken oath in May 2023 alongside Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar.

The arrangement is being seen as a stabilisation phase ahead of legislative council and Rajya Sabha elections, with Congress seeking to avoid factional friction and maintain internal balance.

Political observers say Shivakumar will likely assert greater influence over

CABINET EXPANSION

ministerial selection in the second round, with space likely to open for those considered part of his coterie.

Names being discussed include MLAs such as NA Haris, M Krishnappa, Priya Krishna, HC Balakrishna, HD Ranganath, Iqbal Hussain and Shivaganga Basavaraj — all mostly from Bengaluru and Old Mysuru region — among others. At least two of these are expected to make it in the second round, along with Laxmi Hebbalkar under the women's quota. Most of the 13 ministers in the first list are also from Bengaluru and nearby districts.

The selection has drawn attention for gaps in social and regional representation, with several communities and districts not represented in the first list.

The absence of women ministers and a Brahmin representative has also been noted and is expected to be addressed in the next round of expansion.

Asked about it, Shivakumar said a decision rests with the party high command, adding that further inductions would be considered to address representation gaps, including women's participation, in the next round.

HECTIC PARLEYS & MEETINGS

DCM CALLS FOR TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE

Deputy CM G Parameshwara urged govt officials to ensure "accountable, transparent and people-centric administration", stressing that welfare schemes and public services must reach beneficiaries within the stipulated time. Addressing a meeting of senior officials at Vidhana Soudha, Parameshwara said the new govt carries high public expectations and must work closely with people. He called for governance that responds to the aspirations of the youth while providing a long-term vision for the state's development. The deputy CM said citizens visiting govt offices or police stations must leave satisfied. He urged officials to focus on effective service delivery rather than merely clearing files.

Pics: Agencies

GREETINGS, ALL: A day after he assumed office, CM DK Shivakumar met with top govt officials, including additional chief secretaries and IPS officers at Vidhana Soudha Thursday. His deputy, G Parameshwara, and several other cabinet colleagues were alongside him. Earlier in the day, he met Sri Siddalinga Mahaswami, pontiff of Sree Siddaganga Mutt, in Tumakuru

Cabinet spot for Yathindra revives dynasty debate

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Bengaluru: The induction of Yathindra Siddaramaiah into DK Shivakumar's council of ministers has again brought Karnataka's long-running debate over dynasty politics into focus, highlighting a political reality that extends across party lines despite repeated public criticism of hereditary succession.

The discussion has gained added significance because former CM Siddaramaiah traditionally projected himself as a strong critic of dynastic politics. Throughout his career, Siddaramaiah cultivated the image of a self-made politician who rose through the ranks on the strength of political work, mass appeal, and organisational experience rather than family connections.

Yet, Yathindra's appointment illustrates how political lineage often prevails over ideological opposition to hereditary politics, even among socialists who built their careers by challenging established structures of authority.

No party is exempt

Every major party, whether Congress, BJP or JD(S), has relied on second-generation members to preserve influence, maintain community networks and sustain regional strongholds.

The most visible example remains the Gowda family. Former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda built one of the state's most enduring political legacies. His sons HD Kumaraswamy and HD Revanna have occupied key political positions, while grandsons Nikhil Kumaraswamy and Prajwal Revanna are also in electoral politics. Rival parties have frequently accused JD(S) of concentrating power within one family, a charge the party has consistently rejected.

Congress has its own list of political heirs. Late chief minister S Bangarappa's sons Kumar and Madhu entered public life and held ministerial positions. Madhu Bangarappa served in Siddaramaiah's cabinet and is a contender for a berth when Shivakumar's cabinet is expanded.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's son Priyank has emerged as one of Congress' most prominent functionaries and is widely viewed as a future contender for higher responsibilities within the party.

Shivakumar himself reflects the trend. His brother, former MP DK Suresh, currently heads Bengaluru Milk Union, an influential post. KH Muniyappa, who was made minister again, is the father of MLA Roopakala Shashidhar.

In Davanagere, the influence of the family of late Congress veteran Shamanur Shivashankarappa continues across generations. His son SS Mallikarjun served as a minister in the previous Siddaramaiah govt, daughter-in-law Prabha Mallikarjun represents Davanagere in Parliament, while his grandson won the Davanagere South assembly bypoll recently.

BJP has similarly witnessed the rise of political families. Former CM BS Yediyurappa's son BY Vijayendra now heads the party's Karnataka unit, while another son, BY Raghavendra, is a Lok Sabha member. The list goes on.

Electoral experience

Against this backdrop, Yathindra's elevation appears less an exception than a continuation of a well-established pattern. Party functionaries argue that his induction was based on his electoral experience, organisational work and his growing influence among Kuruba voters rather than purely on family lineage.

Having served as MLA from Varuna and now an MLC, Yathindra has built a political profile of his own, especially in the Old Mysuru region. Siddaramaiah's aides insist the former CM did not actively lobby for his son's inclusion and had even conveyed reservations when discussions on ministerial positions began. He even dismissed the idea of making his son deputy CM.

"In Karnataka, political influence is often built over decades and is closely tied to regional, caste and community networks," said MN Patil, political commentator. "Family succession frequently becomes a natural extension of that political capital. But Yathindra's appointment is significant because Siddaramaiah's public persona has long been rooted in the narrative of a socialist who rose without inheriting political power."

IANS

DAD HAD A HAND? Siddaramaiah projected himself as a strong critic of dynastic politics. Supporters insist Yathindra was made minister because of his own accomplishments

SHORT TAKES

Sitharaman flags Yadgir's poor devpt

Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman expressed concern over Yadgir's poor socio-economic indicators, describing the district's position at the bottom of Karnataka's Human Development Index as "heartbreaking" and calling for urgent intervention by the Centre, state govt and local administration. Speaking after inaugurating a Nabard-supported women-run groundnut value-addition unit, Sitharaman highlighted low female literacy, high multidimensional poverty and low per-capita income in the district. She said only 41 out of every 100 women are literate or pursuing education. She said development had not reached Yadgir and neighbouring Raichur at the same pace as other regions, necessitating focused efforts.

WOMEN TO THE FORE: Nirmala Sitharaman at the inauguration of a women-run groundnut value-addition unit in Yadgir on Thursday. She urged support for the unit, saying value addition and market access could boost local incomes and attract investment in the backward region

BJP predicts Cong govt's fall

BJP state president BY Vijayendra claimed CM DK Shivakumar's new cabinet bears the clear imprint of former CM Siddaramaiah and that the govt would struggle to last its full term. Speaking in Mandya, Vijayendra said the composition of the ministry suggested Siddaramaiah's continued influence and predicted Shivakumar would spend the next two years balancing competing interests within Congress. He also said the CM faces major challenges, including deciding on the Karnataka Backward Classes Commission report accepted by Siddaramaiah. Opposition leader R Ashoka alleged the govt would be "remote controlled" by Siddaramaiah and Rahul Gandhi. He said the change in CM was merely cosmetic and that the cabinet had only two new faces.

The Dalai Lama congratulates DKS

Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama congratulated DK Shivakumar on assuming office as chief minister and expressed gratitude to the state and its people for their continued support to the Tibetan community living in exile. In a letter to Shivakumar, the Dalai Lama said Karnataka is home to more than 30,000 Tibetans, the largest Tibetan diaspora population in India. He thanked the state govt and people for their warmth, hospitality and enduring friendship. He said Karnataka takes pride of place as the home of key Tibetan centres of learning rooted in the Nalanda tradition of ancient Indian wisdom. Meanwhile, the Dalai Lama's office said he will travel to New Delhi Friday for treatment on his left knee and is expected to visit Ladakh later this month after recovery.

Youth clubs proposal: Social purpose or just a political tool?

Sandeep.Moudgal
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Bengaluru: Chief minister DK Shivakumar's ambitious plan to set up 10,000 youth clubs in the state appears to draw inspiration from a model deployed by former West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee, reigniting a debate over whether such grassroots organisations are instruments of social development or merely a political tool.

₹1K-CR OUTLAY

Under the proposed scheme, each club will get Rs 10 lakh for sport and cultural activities, leadership development and social awareness programmes. The total outlay is estimated at Rs 1,000 crore.

Officials say the idea mirrors West Bengal's vast network of para clubs, which received financial assistance, sports equipment and infrastructure support under Mamata's administration. Over time, the clubs evolved into influential neighbourhood institutions with deep local reach.

Officials say spending is likely to be staggered over several years.

The clubs are expected to function under the rural development and panchayat raj and urban development departments, covering a staggering 6,000 gram panchayats and 4,000 urban wards.

TOI

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: File picture of members of a youth club in Moodu Perampalli, Udupi, planting rice for mass feeding

"Unfortunately, the youth services and sports department is understaffed and underfunded and cannot carry out these exercises," an official said.

The proposal has nevertheless triggered political debate. Critics argue that the initiative could help Congress create a structured youth network at the grassroots. "Given the impact of the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) movement and the need for Congress to mobilise youth, these clubs are more politically motivated than being an administrative decision," said Sandeep Shastri, political analyst.

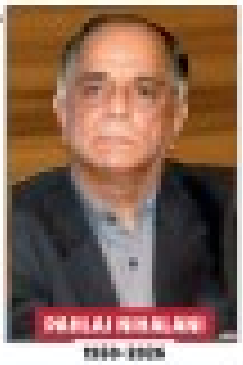
> Every project in the state is an expenditure. Even providing tea and snacks at meetings is an expenditure. We will ensure funds
>
> **DK Shivakumar** | CHIEF MINISTER

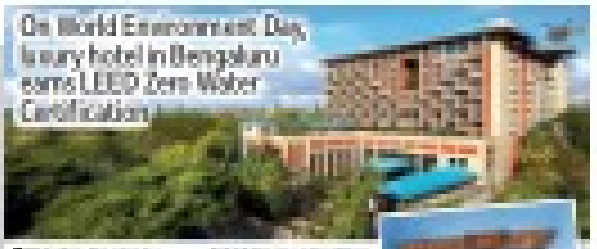
Yet, he said, these clubs could serve a larger social purpose if the proposal is implemented effectively. They could become a strong social and moral compass for youth if they start influencing positivity in society, Shastri said.

Some observers compared the proposal to RSS' 'shakha' model, while others caution against the controversies that have occasionally surrounded neighbourhood clubs in West Bengal, including allegations of fund misuse.

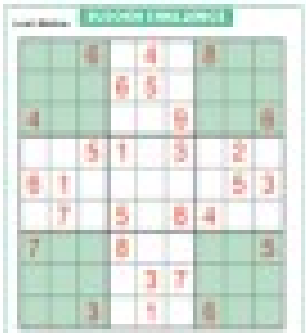
Officials who envisioned the model say safeguards, including audits and monitoring mechanisms, are being built into the scheme. "The details will be made clear when the scheme is officially launched," an official said.

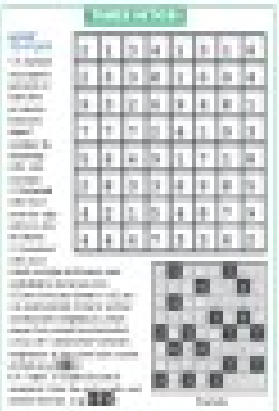
Filmmaker, former CBFC chairperson Pahlaj Nihalani passes away

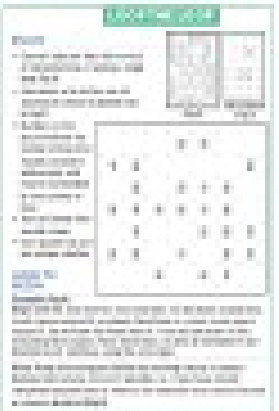


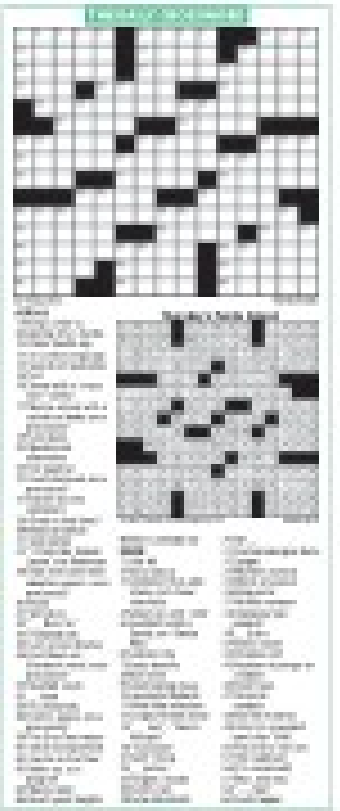


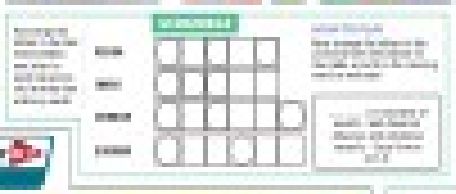
On World Environment Day, luxury hotel in Bengaluru earns LEED Zero Water Certification

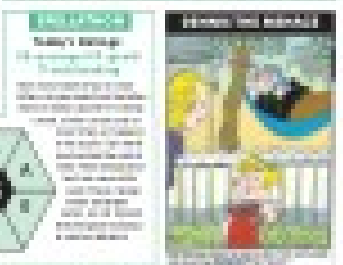












Agile & on time: Yellow Line gives users a fitness boost

Riders Get More Exercise, Less Stress, Finds IISc

Anush.S@timesofindia.com

File photo

Bengaluru: Calisthenics was last on the trade-off list when lakhs of motorists decided to switch from own or hired vehicles to Metro rides from RV Road to Bommasandra, a line that snakes through Bengaluru's famed tech corridor — otherwise a byword for traffic jam.

Many regular commuters on the 18.9km route — which reduces travel time from a pollution-filled 2.5-hour ride to a breezy 30 minutes — admit they are now clocking 10-15 minutes of daily walk for Metro and related commutes, according to an IISc study funded by Biocon Foundation and ELCIA (Electronics City Industries' Association). These commuters earlier had a largely sedentary lifestyle, mainly thanks to long commutes.

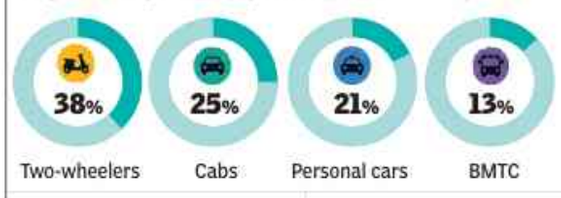
Daily walks to Metro stations and offices add up to 50-75 minutes of moderate physical activity every week, giving commuters an unexpected fitness boost along with a faster ride to work. The study, conducted between July 2025 and Feb 2026, spoke to 600 commuters.

The inference was drawn from a comprehensive baseline survey done ahead of the Aug 2025 inauguration of Yellow Line and followed by a phone survey of the same commuters conducted six months after the inauguration. Some 83% of respondents had expressed willingness to switch to Yellow Line once it became operational. Before the line was launched, 38% respondents used to travel by two-wheelers, 25% by cabs, 21% by private cars and the rest by public road transport.

A huge concern reported by 58% of the respondents was minimal physical activity, well below the WHO-recommended minimum of 600 MET (Metabolic Equivalent of Task) minutes a week. On the lifestyle diseases faced, 15% admitted to hypertension, 18% diabetes, and 4.6% respiratory illnesses.

The modal shift to Yellow Line has delivered clear gains: Increased physical activity, mental wellbeing and reduced exposure to polluted air. The two-wheeler riders who were absorbing high doses of PM2.5 earlier are now travelling in climate-controlled, enclosed environments, experiencing near-zero direct outdoor pollution exposure. Respondents reported feeling less tired, more in control of their daily routines, and better work-life balance. Added benefits included increase in social interaction during daily journeys, reduced travel delays, lower fatigue and greater energy for personal and family responsibilities.

HOW PEOPLE COMMUTED BEFORE YELLOW LINE STARTED



BIG GAINS

- Lower commute stress, commuters more relaxed, reduced anxiety
- More personal time available due to cut in travel time

> The study has the potential to be a benchmark case study on how the agenda of shared, electric, and active modes should be looked at not just in terms of sustainable mobility intervention but also on core development goals of liveability and wellbeing
>
> **Ashish Verma** | PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR, IISC SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION LAB (IST LAB)

> Findings highlight the need for an inclusive mobility ecosystem through stronger last-mile connectivity and safer pedestrian infrastructure. Public transport must remain at the centre of Bengaluru's long-term urban development agenda
>
> **Anupama Shetty** | MISSION DIRECTOR, BIOCON FOUNDATION

> Before Metro started, my travel from Banashankari to Electronics City involved two transits. Though our mandate is to be in the office twice a week, I'm ready to go all five days, thanks to Metro
>
> **Shankargouda S Parappanavar** | A REGULAR COMMUTER

FIRST LOOK OF BLUE LINE

TOI

ONWARD: BMRCL received the first trainset for Metro's Blue Line Thursday from Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. The 19km Blue Line stretch between Silk Board & KR Pura is slated to open by the end of 2026. BEML is scheduled to supply 16 trainsets for the line's ORR section

Pre-SIR mapping reaches 72% in city; house checks from June 30

Bengaluru: With special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls set to begin in Karnataka from June 20, Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) chief commissioner Maheshwar Rao, who is also district election officer, said progress of pre-SIR mapping exercise stood at 72% in the city.

As part of preparation for SIR, the process of mapping 2025 electoral rolls with that of 2002 is under way. "Booth-level officers will be deployed in each of the 8,023 booths, along with around 1,600 BLO supervisors," Rao said.

The BLOs will begin house-to-house verification from June 30. The exercise will continue till July 27, after which the draft electoral roll will be published on Aug 5. Voters can file claims and objections till Sept 4, and the final electoral roll will be published on Oct 7. As part of the revision process, BLOs will distribute enumeration forms that voters must fill and submit to ensure their names are retained in the upcoming draft roll. If a resident is unavailable during a visit, the BLO can leave the form at the doorstep and make at least three attempts to collect it. TNN

2 FRIENDS, 18 YRS & 468 TREES

Duo's commitment grows into canopy

Hamsaveni.N@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: On the busy JP Nagar ring road, motorists zip past a green median lined with mature trees. Their branches sway above the traffic, offering shade on scorching afternoons and softening an otherwise concrete landscape. Most commuters barely notice them. Fewer still know the story behind them.

ENVIRONMENT DAY

Nearly 18 years ago, when this stretch was little more than a sun-baked median, two young men made a promise that would eventually transform it into one of south Bengaluru's greenest corridors. They were not environmentalists by profession, nor were they backed by a govt programme or corporate funding. They were simply two friends from engineering college in their mid-20s — Ajit Vishwanath and Abhilash Narasimhamurthy — who decided that if Bengaluru needed more trees, someone had to ensure the saplings survived. That decision would cost them two years of Sunday mornings.

Around 2008, the duo approached Reforest India, a volunteer-driven group that plants and nurtures trees, with a proposal to green the median along JP Nagar ring road. The stretch was then largely barren and exposed to the harsh sun. "We realised that people travelling on the road were suffering because there was hardly any shade," recalled Ajit. "Planting trees seemed like the simplest way of making a lasting difference." Reforest India agreed to plant the saplings only after receiving an assurance they would be looked after by Ajit and Abhilash.

"I did not have a great interest in this initially, but all thanks to Ajit, who pushed me into joining the initiative. I simply joined hands with him. Today, when I show those trees to my children, it feels very nice," said Abhilash.

The first plantation drive was taken up on Nov 1, 2008, when 236 saplings were planted along a 2km stretch from what is now Vega City Mall to the JP Nagar underpass. As the results were encouraging, another 232 saplings were planted in 2009 across two 1km stretches connecting JP Nagar Social, Kanakapura Road, and the underpass.

The plantation included species such as Hoovarasi, Mahogany, Peltoform, Indian Almond, Parkia, Shivni, Seeme Hunse (Kodukapuli), Akash Mallige and Simarouba glauca, a medicinal species also known as Laxmi Tharu.

Every Sunday, the two friends would meet at dawn. A water tanker would arrive, and together they would spend hours moving slowly along the median, watering hundreds of saplings one by one. One controlled the tanker valve while the other dragged a heavy four-inch hose across the stretch. They alternated roles, repeating the process week after week.

As water tankers were expensive, the duo dipped into their salaries and persuaded friends to contribute whenever funds ran short. "If someone had a birthday, we'd jokingly ask them to sponsor half a tanker," Ajit said. "But one thing was certain. The watering would never stop."

Some saplings were lost along the way. Cattle uprooted a few. Others were damaged by passers-by. A handful simply failed to survive. The volunteers replaced them and carried on. The commitment lasted nearly two years — long enough for the young trees to develop roots deep enough to survive on their own.

Syed Asif

LEGACY: Ajit Vishwanath (bottom, left) & Abhilash Narasimhamurthy nurtured 500 saplings, creating a thriving green corridor in JP Nagar

Long-term responsibility

Today, the results speak for themselves. After 18 years, Reforest India revisited the spot — one of its earliest large-scale plantation projects — Thursday. Reforest India founder Janet SK Yagneswaran, along with volunteers Jefford Wilson and Nagraj, counted the trees and found that of the 500 saplings originally planted, 468 survived, giving the initiative a remarkable survival rate of 93.6%.

For Janet, the numbers tell a story of commitment rather than plantation. "What matters is whether the saplings survive. These trees are standing today because volunteers treated them as a long-term responsibility and not a one-day event," she said.

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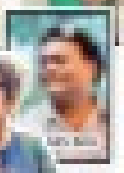
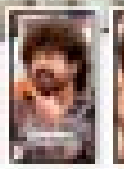
Celebrities gather for DK Shivakumar's oath-taking ceremony in Bengaluru

GALLERY





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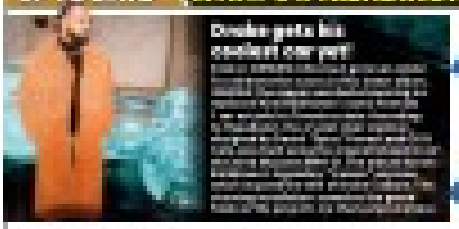
UP TO DATE | WHAT'S #TRENDING AND WHY



Drake gets his coolest car yet

Bugatti swaps horsepower for screen power

Tarantino would rather watch today's movies: Tarantino

Pele's world cup-winning shirt to make history again

India's masala chai brews to the top of best teas' list

Indian tea estates make a mark

Jealousy: DNA test unmasks killer in missing woman case

Rajiv.Kalkod@timesofindia.com

According to police, Bhanuprakash purchased petrol in a bottle and kept it in Ramasagara reserve forest. He then lured B Shwetha onto his motorbike and drove her into the forest where he smothered her to death before setting her body ablaze to destroy evidence

Bengaluru: A missing person case in Tumakuru district has ended in the arrest of a 55-year-old farmer, with DNA profiling exposing a chilling tale of betrayal, jealousy and a meticulously planned murder.

For nearly four months, the mystery surrounding the disappearance of 26-year-old Shwetha B from Muttugadahalli village baffled cops. On Jan 19, Shwetha left her home, telling her family members that she was travelling to Mayasandra village for personal work. Days passed without any word from her. Growing worried, her husband Basavagowda, a farmer, lodged a complaint at Turuvekere police station on Jan 28. The couple have two minor daughters.

But on Feb 1, a police patrol team discovered the badly burnt body of an unidentified woman dumped in a ditch inside the Ramasagara reserve forest. The remains were shifted to a mortuary at Bellur Cross. Basavagowda, who was summoned by police to the mortuary, was unable to identify the body because of severe burns.

Tumakuru superintendent of police KV Ashok constituted a special investigation team headed by inspector BN Lohit. The team revisited the crime scene and recovered a handful of crucial clues: half-burnt footwear, a broken gold nose ring and fragments of glass bangles.

When shown the items, Shwetha's mother Sujata and her daughters said they resembled the belongings used by Shwetha. Blood samples from Sujata and visceral samples from the victim were sent to a forensic science laboratory for DNA profiling. In the last week of May, the report arrived and confirmed what investigators had suspected: the charred body was indeed Shwetha's.

"By then, Lohit and his team, who were confident that it was Shwetha's body, had done their homework on who could have killed Shwetha and for what. Soon, the investigating team found that it was a romance that ended on a fatal note," Ashok told **TOI.**

Police initially struggled because Shwetha's mobile phone had been switched off soon after she left home. The investigation eventually led police to Bhanuprakash, 55, a farmer from the same village. During questioning, police discovered that Shwetha and Bhanuprakash were involved in an extramarital relationship. Over time, tensions had developed between them.

According to investigators, Bhanuprakash had become increasingly jealous, believing Shwetha had friendships with other men. Police said he then began plotting her murder.

"He had planned in detail how to murder her. First, he purchased petrol from a fuel station in a two-litre water bottle and kept it in the forest area, where he had planned to take Shwetha. Accordingly, on Jan 19, he lured Shwetha onto his motorbike under false pretences and drove her deep into the Ramasagara reserve forest. There, he smothered her to death, doused her body with petrol and set her ablaze to destroy all evidence," an investigating officer said.

Following a complaint filed by Basavagowda, police arrested Bhanuprakash on charges of murder.

"He had robbed the gold ornaments on her and pledged them with a pawn broker at Bellur Cross. We have recovered them. In the shop register, Bhanuprakash has clearly entered his name and signature. This will play a vital role in establishing evidence against him," the officer said.

Happy Streets returns to Koramangala this Sunday

BHIMA presents HAPPY streets — OUR ROADS. OUR WAY.

Bengaluru: After a lively edition at JP Nagar, Happy Streets by The Times of India is set to return to Koramangala, reviving one of the city's most popular Sunday morning community gatherings. The event will be held Sunday, June 7, from 6:30am to 9:30am, near Veera Yodhara Vana Park, 7th Cross Road, 4th Block, Koramangala.

The day will open with meditation sessions led by Heartfulness, followed by yoga and pranayama conducted by Sarvebhavanthu Sukhinah Yoga. The energy will then build up with a fitness dance and Zumba session by Swingers Dance Inc, encouraging participants to move together in sync.

Music and creativity will animate the morning, with Mic & Melody presenting a live performance and From Mug to Mic offering interactive singing sessions for attendees. NeeRav Arts Village will showcase traditional mudgar exercises, while Alert NGO will conduct CPR training.

Presenting sponsors Bhima Jewellers will engage the crowd with a quiz and lucky draw. TNN

Ragpicker, 27, held for rape bid on student

Bengaluru: A 27-year-old ragpicker was arrested on charges of attempting to rape a 23-year-old psychology student when she was walking near her paying guest accommodation in Pattandur Agrahara, Whitefield, during the early hours of June 2.

The accused, **Saifal Mondal,** from West Bengal, is a resident of Pattandur Agrahara. Based on the student's complaint, Mondal was arrested on attempted rape charges and sent to Bengaluru Central Prison.

The student, who is pursuing a master's degree in psychology and is from Kerala, was returning to her PG accommodation from her friend's house when the incident happened around 3.30am. According to the student, she alighted from the auto near a bakery, located around 150 metres from her PG, and started walking.

"The girl said she would visit the bakery several times in the past during wee hours, and thus felt safe to walk from there. Between the bakery and her PG, there are dimly lit lanes and Mondal was collecting waste materials there. He saw the girl walking alone, groped her from behind and tried to drag her away," police said.

The student tried to resist, but was unsuccessful. "By then, the accused had dragged her for over 20 metres. Hearing her screams, a few residents rushed out of their homes. Seeing them, the accused fled the scene," an investigating officer said. Based on the gunny bag that he had left, police realised he was a ragpicker and traced him to a slum. TNN

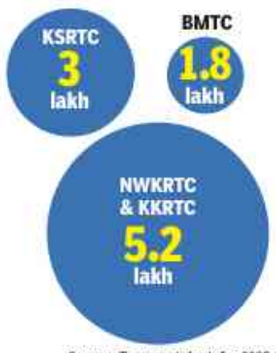
Govt to pay ₹1,500cr a yr for male students' free bus ride

Suchith.Kidiyoor@timesofindia.com

File photo

The govt's new scheme, expected to benefit over 10 lakh students, is likely to restrict free bus rides for male students between home and school or college. Officials say they are yet to receive guidelines for its implementation

Students availing bus passes in state



Source: Transport dept; for 2025-26

Bengaluru: Extending free bus travel to male students from primary school to postgraduate level across Karnataka is expected to leave the state finances poorer by Rs 1,500 crore to Rs 1,700 crore a year. The scheme is expected to benefit 10 lakh students, and 2 lakh of them are in Bengaluru.

Three years ago when the Cong govt took office, it launched Shakthi scheme that offers free bus travel for women and girls with no caveats on route or number of rides per day.

The announcement by chief minister DK Shivakumar Wednesday likely to restrict free bus rides for male students between home and school or college. Officials of the state-run road transport corporations said they are yet to receive guidelines for the scheme's implementation. This will determine the actual expenditure, an officer said.

RTCs have been issuing concessional student bus passes for several years. During the previous academic year, nearly 10 lakh student passes were issued to boys across the four transport corporations. Under the previous policy decision, students paid 25% of the pass cost, respective RTC contributed equal share, and the rest was borne by the state govt.

Sources said the number of beneficiaries could rise significantly once the passes become completely free. On average, the transport corporations spend Rs 15,000 per student annually on travel concessions.

"Student bus passes till the academic year 2025-26 were issued at highly subsidised rates. The previous revision of pass fares was carried out more than a decade ago. With the govt's announcement of free bus travel for students from 2026-27, the entire cost is likely to be borne by the state government," an official said.

The decision was welcomed by the student community. G Lithin, who commutes from Sudhamanagar to Dairy Circle, said he spends more than Rs 50 a day on daily travel. "Free bus travel helps me save money and reduces burden on my family. I visited a BMTC kiosk at Shantinagar on Thursday for details on the scheme, but officials were waiting for communication from the govt," he added.

Car-bike collision: Techie dies after being flung off flyover

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: A 26-year-old software engineer lost her life in a tragic road accident in the early hours of Thursday after a speeding car collided with the bike she was riding pillion on at Marathahalli Bridge in Spice Garden Layout.

The deceased, NT Krishna Sri of Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh, worked in a private company in the city and stayed at a PG accommodation in Ashwath Nagar. According to police, the accident occurred around 2am when Krishna Sri was riding pillion on a bike with her colleague, Avinash (26). As they approached the bridge, Avinash allegedly rode against the traffic on a one-way stretch.

A Skoda car, travelling in the designated direction, crashed into the bike on the bridge. The impact was so severe that Krishna Sri was tossed into the air, thrown off the flyover and she fell onto the service road below. She suffered severe head injuries as she was riding without wearing a helmet.

Avinash, who fell onto the road on the bridge after the collision, sustained injuries and is said to be out of danger. He is undergoing treatment at a hospital.

The injured Krishna Sri was rushed to a nearby private hospital with the help of passersby. However, doctors declared her dead before treatment could begin.

HAL traffic police registered a case against car driver Suresh Kumar S, 40, who is also employed at a software company. When police subjected him to a breathalyser test, his reading was 62 mg/100 ml. He was arrested.

Homemaker, parents die in car crash

Bengaluru: A 39-year-old homemaker and her parents were killed while her husband and two children sustained injuries when their Toyota Crysta rammed a Maruti Omni that took a sudden turn on Hiriyur-Challakere highway in Tumakuru district Thursday afternoon.

The deceased are R Soumya and her parents, Ganeshwar Reddy, 68, and Indiramma Reddy, 65. Soumya's husband, Ravi Kumar, a software engineer, and their two children, Charit Reddy, 6, and Charvi Reddy, 10, were admitted to a hospital. Hailing from Kadapa, the family was driving back from Mysuru when the accident occurred around 1pm, police said.

The vehicle was moving in the direction of Hiriyur and Ravi Kumar was behind the wheel. On reaching Kenkere Gollarahatti junction, it rammed the Maruti Omni that took a sudden turn in the middle of the road and toppled," an investigating officer said. TNN

Monsoon may advance to south K'taka in 2 days

Niranjan.Kaggere@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru: After days of anticipation and widespread pre-monsoon showers, southwest monsoon entered Karnataka Thursday, with India Meteorological Department (IMD) declaring its onset over coastal districts Dakshina Kannada and Udupi following continuous rainfall and thunderstorm activity.

The monsoon also completed its advance over neighbouring Kerala.

IMD officials said monsoon is likely to progress into south-interior Karnataka within the next two days.

Dr N Puviarasan, scientist and regional head of IMD Bengaluru, said: "Conditions are highly favourable for further advancement into south-interior Karnataka. Rainfall activity is expected to spread to more districts of Karnataka and parts of Tamil Nadu over the next two days."

Explaining the declaration, CS Patil, scientist at IMD Bengaluru, said Karnataka coast has met all standard onset criteria.

"The region has recorded continuous rainfall of over 2-3mm in recent days, with wind speeds of 30-35kmph and persistent cloud cover. If these conditions continue, monsoon is expected to advance into Mysuru, Chamarajanagar, Bengaluru and other parts of SIK within two days," he said.

IMD issued a yellow alert for coastal Karnataka till June 10. Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada are likely to receive heavy to very heavy rainfall over the next two days, while Bengaluru, Kolar, Tumakuru, and Chikkaballapur are expected to witness light to moderate rain accompanied by thunderstorms.

CM: Firms will have to submit CSR records

▸ Continued from page 1

The state gets Rs 8,000 crore in CSR spending but we do not know how it is being used. Companies will have to submit records. New guidelines will be issued in four days," he said, adding govt schools will get priority followed by healthcare.

On voter list revision under the special intensive revision process, Shivakumar said no eligible citizen should be deprived of voting rights. "Facilitation centres will be set up. Karnataka will adopt best practices to prevent voter exclusion," he added.

The CM said the state does not intend to back out of Mekedatu reservoir project. "We have already submitted the detailed project report. Supreme Court has ruled on it, but Tamil Nadu has sought a review. It's for the Centre to take a call," he added.

Land acquisition for car parking quashed

Bengaluru: Observing that the state govt could not have acquired land for a private entity, which is a profitable venture, the high court quashed acquisition of land by KIADB in favour of Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers Association (IMTMA) at Madanayakanahalli, near Nelamangala, for construction of a multilevel car parking facility.

A division bench of Justices DK Singh and TM Nadaf passed the order Wednesday.

IMTMA established Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), near Nelamangala. It sought nearly 23.3 acres of land for construction of a multilevel car parking facility. The state govt, through KIADB, issued a final notification on May 2, 2012. Ultimately, the acquisition was restricted to nearly 17.4 acres. The landowners challenged the same. TNN

Dating app friendship ends in ₹30L 'customs fee' fraud

Chaithanya.Swamy@timesofindia.com

AI

THINK TWICE BEFORE TRUSTING STRANGERS

- Be cautious while interacting with people on dating platforms, especially those claiming to be foreign professionals
- Never transfer money to strangers, regardless of reason provided
- Be wary of stories involving customs detention, gifts, foreign currency, medical emergencies and trading
- If someone asks for money repeatedly or pressures you to make quick payments, treat it as major red flag

Report suspected cyberfraud immediately by calling **1930** HELPLINE

Bengaluru: A friendship on a dating app turned sour for a 26-year-old man, who lost nearly Rs 30 lakh to crooks posing as an American doctor and airport officials.

The Bengaluru resident said he came in contact with a man who identified himself as Dr John Martine through the dating application Grindr on July 21 last year. Soon, the duo exchanged mobile numbers and started messaging regularly. Claiming to be a doctor from the US, the accused gradually gained the complainant's trust through regular conversations. The fraud took a dramatic turn when the accused informed the youth that he was travelling to India to meet him, and shared what appeared to be a flight ticket. The accused was scheduled to arrive at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport on Aug 10, 2025.

The following day, the complainant received a message from the fake doctor stating he had landed at the airport and was detained by customs officials for carrying $240,000 in cash. He claimed he needed Indian currency to pay the customs charges.

Soon after, a woman claiming to be an airport official contacted the youth and demanded money for customs clearance, currency conversion, anti-money laundering verification, insurance charges, and security deposits. The "doctor" also spoke to the complainant multiple times and requested help by promising to return the money when he met him.

Believing the story to be genuine and hoping to help his online friend, the Bengaluru youth allegedly transferred money in multiple transactions to several bank accounts that were provided by the fraudsters, including one belonging to a person identified as Vivek Kumar, till Sept last year. In all, the youth transferred Rs 29.8 lakh before he realised he had fallen victim to an elaborate scam. He refused to make more payments, but the fraudsters kept emotionally blackmailing him, claiming that "Dr Martine" would not be released unless all the charges were paid.

The victim then contacted the national cybercrime helpline (1930) and lodged an online complaint. On June 1 this year, he lodged a complaint with South cybercrime police. A case has been registered under the Information Technology Act and Sections 318 (cheating) and 319 (cheating by personation) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

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Priyank Kharge to handle home & IT-BT portfolios

▸ Continued from page 1

Ramalinga Reddy, senior minister and prominent Vokkaliga leader from the city who had staked it all for Bengaluru urban development portfolio, has been given water resources. Earlier in the day, Reddy had reportedly met Shivakumar to deliver an ultimatum: "Allocate Bengaluru development or accept my exit." Sources claimed that Reddy has "submitted" his resignation.

The dispute carries baggage from the previous Siddaramaiah-led Congress govt. At that time, the high command had reportedly favoured Reddy for Bengaluru development. However, Shivakumar had opted to retain the department with an understanding that it would change hands if he assumed the chief minister's office.

Former assembly Speaker UT Khader will head health and family welfare, while Priyank Kharge will handle home and IT-BT. Yathindra Siddaramaiah has been allotted urban development, and Sharana Prakash Patil will take charge of medical education.

Byrathi Suresh has been assigned transport, and Eshwar Khandre will oversee rural development and panchayat raj.

Adding to the govt's challenges, minority community leaders had raised demands for greater representation in the govt.

Varsity gets ₹1-cr grant

Bengaluru: Kristu Jayanti (deemed-to-be university) secured a research grant under Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC) of the education ministry, with a sanctioned funding of over Rs 1 crore. The project will be implemented from June 2026 to May 2028.

FOR RESEARCH

SPARC is a national initiative aimed at enhancing India's research ecosystem. The funded project, "Development of Stimuli-Responsive Theranostic Nanocomposites of Marine- and Plant-Derived Neuroprotective Agents for Parkinson's Disease: An Integrated Approach," is led by Shinomol George K, assistant professor, department of life sciences, school of biological and forensic sciences, as principal investigator, with Dileep Francis, dean, centre for research and development and associate professor, department of life sciences, as co-principal investigator.

The project is being carried out in collaboration with Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan. TNN

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DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

RONAL PAUL VAN DER VEEN
DOB: 14th July 1947
DOD: 3rd June 2026
Loving son of late Frank & Myrtle van der Veen, brother of Patricia, Michael, Gordon & Marian. (Late) Arthur & Peter. Loving brother-in-law, uncle and grand-uncle. Sorely missed & loved by all.
Funeral: Holy Ghost Church (Richards Town)
Date: 5th June 2026
Viewing: 2:45pm
Mass: 3:00pm, followed by burial at Kalpalli Cemetery
"Under Mary's mantle of love and protection, may he find eternal peace."

OBITUARY
DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS
SAD DEMISE

Mrs. SELINE LAWRENCE - 86 Yrs
W/o of Late M.T.Lawrence
Left for Heavenly Abode on 03-06-2026
FUNERAL MASS
on 5th June 2026 at 2:00 pm St Anne's Church, Marathahalli, Blore
Followed by BURIAL in Kallpalli Cemetery at 3:30 pm
Deeply Mourned by FAMILY MEMBERS
95919 04913

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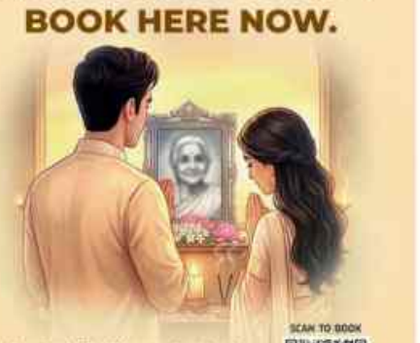

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DEATH ANNIVERSARY
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Mr. SESHU NAIDU
Dad, your strength, wisdom, and love continue to guide us every day. We miss you deeply.

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Books are a uniquely portable magic - Stephen King

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Bookstore-hop tips

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TIMES NATION

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2026

FIR FILED AGAINST MAMATA FOR ALLEGEDLY LINKING HOME MINISTRY WITH B'DESH ACTIVIST OSMAN HADI'S 2025 MURDER

HIMANTA TO INDUCT 12 MORE MINISTERS TODAY, TAKING ASSAM CABINET STRENGTH TO 17; 2 SLOTS TO STAY VACANT

HACK OF THE DAY **LISTEN TO YOUTUBE VIDEOS IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE**

WHAT IT SOLVES: Helps you follow selected videos in a language you understand better when the creator or YouTube provides alternate audio tracks

WHAT TO DO: Use YouTube's Audio track setting on supported videos to switch between original and dubbed audio

STEPS:

1. **Open** a YouTube video
2. **Tap** the player settings icon
3. **Select** Audio track if the option appears
4. **Choose** your preferred language
5. **Set** preferred languages in YouTube settings if you want this more often

NOTE: Works only on videos with additional audio tracks or auto-dubbed audio. Quality can vary

SCAN FOR MORE

Hacks are based on verified public sources. Readers are advised to follow official websites & updated rules

STATISTICS A slice of life in numbers

Tesla's share price and performance are going different ways

Tesla's expected earnings per share (EPS), a widely tracked gauge of future profitability, has more than halved from its peak. Its share price, however, continues to command a premium valuation, reflecting optimism that extends well beyond current financial performance

Tesla's share price vs expected earnings per share, in $

Source: Bloomberg

5 patients killed as fire erupts in Bihar hosp ICU

Families Allege Hospital Staff Was Absent

Sheezan.Nezami
@timesofindia.com

IANS

Family members of the deceased at Prasad Hospital grieve the loss

Patna: A predawn fire tore through the ICU on the fifth floor of a private hospital in Bihar's Muzaffarpur Thursday, killing five patients and triggering scenes of panic as survivors fought through choking smoke to escape what quickly turned into a death trap.

The blaze erupted around 4am at Prasad Hospital, where 27 patients were undergoing treatment in the ICU.

Dense smoke rapidly engulfed the ward, forcing a frantic evacuation of patients, many dependent on life-support equipment.

Muzaffarpur district magistrate Subrat Sen said five patients—four men and a woman—died in the disaster.

The remaining patients were shifted to other hospitals, while three were referred to Patna, about 75km south of Muzaffarpur.

Officials identified the dead as 76-year-old Krishnandan Prasad Singh, the oldest victim, and 30-year-old Shashank Kumar, the youngest, along with three others. For some survivors, escape came down to seconds. Radha Devi, a patient in her 90s, said she spotted the fire, removed her oxygen support herself and rushed out as smoke spread through the ward.

Attendants of other patients alleged negligence by hospital staff, claiming no personnel were present when the fire broke out. Investigators are expected to record statements from patients, relatives and hospital employees.

A forensic science laboratory team sealed the fifth floor, housing both the ICU and critical care unit, as investigators began piecing together how the tragedy happened. Preliminary findings indicate a possible electrical short circuit, though authorities have yet to confirm the exact cause.

Chief minister Samrat Choudhary expressed grief over the loss of life and announced an ex gratia of Rs 4 lakh for the family of each victim. Questions over safety measures surfaced. Sen said an investigation committee had been formed to determine responsibility, including whether fire-safety norms were followed and whether the hospital had adequate prevention and emergency-response systems in place.

Scientists find tiny weapon for precision strike on breast cancer

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What gives the therapy its precision edge is its ability to distinguish cancer from healthy tissue. That accuracy could address one of chemotherapy's biggest drawbacks: collateral damage

Bengaluru: Indian scientists have delivered a promising dose of hope in the fight against breast cancer, developing a microscopic drug carrier that homes in on tumour cells, shuts down their survival machinery and dramatically shrinks tumours in mice while sparing healthy tissue.

Researchers at Pune-based Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) have engineered nanoparticles thousands of times smaller than a human hair to ferry gene-silencing molecules directly into breast cancer cells. Once inside, the payload switches off genes that help tumours evade death, resist treatment and continue growing. The approach targets one of cancer's oldest survival tricks—its ability to keep cellular "death signals" at bay. By cutting off those instructions, scientists effectively pull the plug on the tumour's life-support system.

What gives the therapy its precision edge is its ability to distinguish cancer from healthy tissue. Breast cancer cells are rich in a protein called MUC1, which is largely absent in normal cells. Researchers equipped the nanoparticles with a biological targeting mechanism that recognises MUC1, allowing them to dock onto malignant cells while largely bypassing healthy ones.

That accuracy could address one of chemotherapy's biggest drawbacks: collateral damage. Conventional cancer drugs often wage a body-wide assault to hit tumours.

Scientists also built in a molecular safety lock. The nanoparticles release their genetic payload only after entering cancer cells. "Tumours in mice shrank significantly. The cancer cells died. Crucially, surrounding healthy tissue showed little damage—a result that distinguishes this from many existing treatments," department of science and technology said.

The study was carried out by researchers Niladri Haldar, Rajkumar Samanta, Surajit Patra, Devyani Sengar, Sachin Jadhav and Virendra Gajbhiye. They cautioned the therapy is in an early stage of development. Many experimental cancer treatments that succeed in mice fail to make the leap to human patients, and years of testing lie ahead before any potential clinical use. Still, scientists said the work offers a blueprint for a new generation of precision cancer medicines aimed at disease's genetic roots rather than relying solely on broad-spectrum treatments.

Armed foresters guard Assam school after monkey attacks five students

Guwahati: Days after a monkey attacked five students at a govt primary school in central Assam's Nagaon district, forest guards armed with rifles now watch over the children — transforming the campus into a tableau of human-wildlife conflict, **reports Kangkan Kalita**.

Attendance at Garubandha Lower Primary School has fallen drastically since Tuesday, when the attack left a girl with wounds to her nose. The school's six teachers, instead of focusing on lessons, are forced to chase monkeys from the grounds. Hemanta Kumar Raut, assistant teacher, said he had never seen monkeys attacking students before.

Barely 50 of the 125 children have attended classes over the past two days as monkeys continue to loiter around the village. A forest official said, "Since the arrival of the armed guards, monkeys have not approached during school hours but one attacked a boy in a nearby building."

'I was told Delhi mein sab chalta hai': Gutted hotel owner to cops

Modifications Suggested By Seller, He Claims

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Police in Delhi filed an FIR in 2024 against **Lovkesh Bajaj**—co-owner of Hauz Rani B&B that caught fire Wednesday and killed 21, including 12 foreigners—for violating norms and absence of safety measures like metal detectors and CCTV cameras in the establishment, cops said Thursday.

Though the building was constructed over two decades ago, Bajaj had bought the property from another businessman around three years ago.

The modifications to the building, which included increasing the size of the rooms and making certain alterations, were suggested by the businessman, he claimed. Such arrangements were "common practice" and "everything goes in Delhi" an officer quoted Bajaj as saying, adding that his claims are being verified.

The cause of the fire is yet to be established.

Sources also said Delhi Police's licensing wing had turned down his verification report in 2022-23. Police have sought details from MCD, BSES and DM on approvals, power connections and inquiry findings related to properties linked to Bajaj.

They have also launched a manhunt for Bajaj's accountant Jai Mishra, manager Rakesh and 10 of his staffers who fled the spot after the fire broke out. Bajaj, who is on four days' police remand, told cops that he had handed over the management of the B&B to Mishra, who was also managing two of Bajaj's other B&Bs in the area.

CBFC ex-chief Pahlaj Nihalani passes away

Mumbai: Producer and former member of Censor Board of Film Certification (CBFC) **Pahlaj Nihalani** died at the age of 76 on Thursday, reportedly of a liver ailment, **reports Bella Jaisinghani**.

Nihalani courted controversies during his tenure as CBFC chairman.

Nihalani is survived by his wife and three sons. CM Devendra Fadnavis said, "His contribution to the film industry will be remembered forever. With his passing, the film world has lost an experienced personality."

Untouched food saves 83-yr-old living alone

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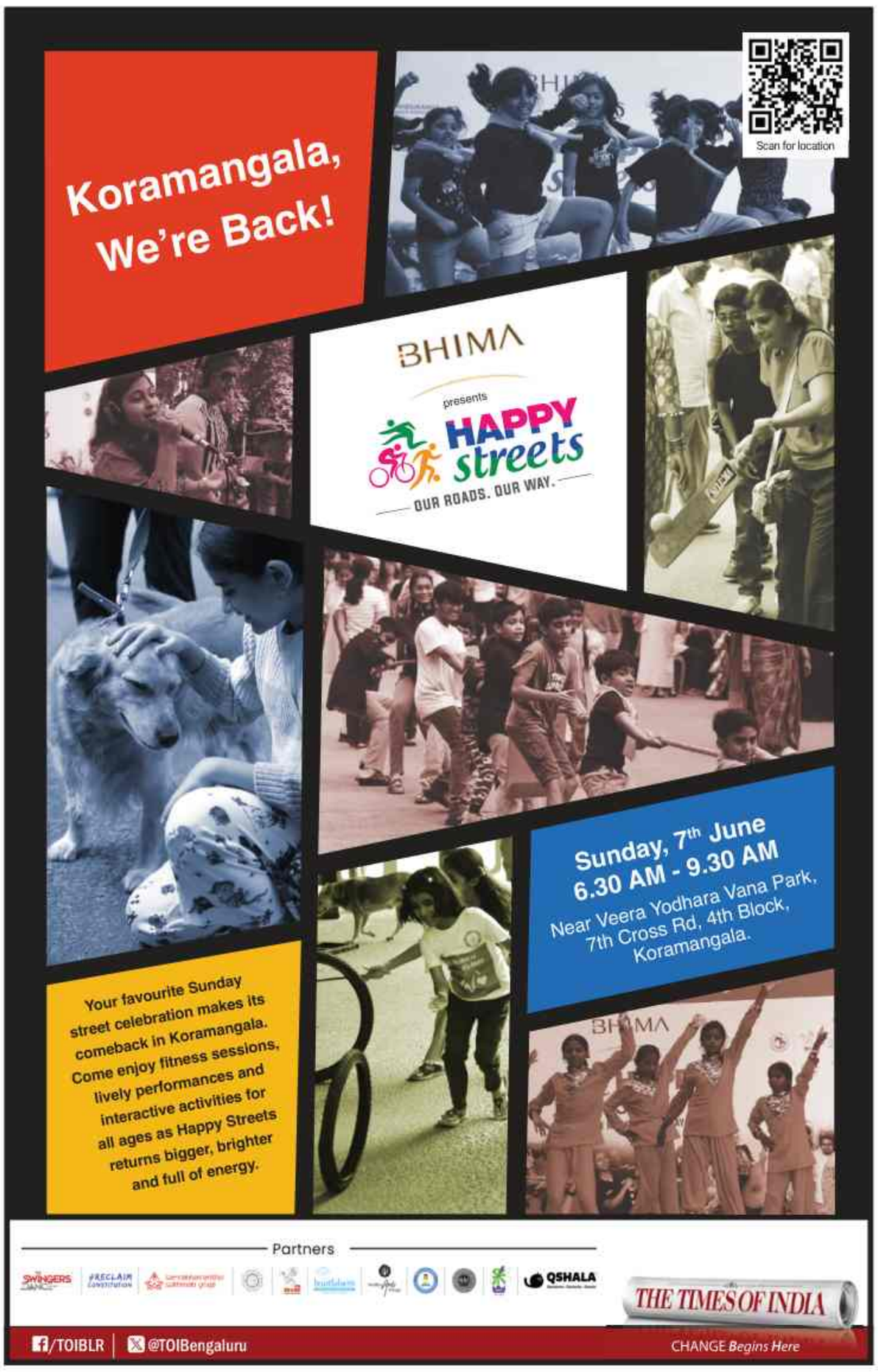
Madurai: Untouched meal outside a flat in Madurai, Tamil Nadu, turned into a lifeline for an 83-year-old man living alone, after alert neighbours realised something was wrong and called for help Wednesday night.

Natarajan, a retired govt employee, had been living by himself since his wife died during the Covid-19 pandemic. His son works in Sweden and his daughter lives in Vellore. "Online food deliveries had become part of his daily routine," said neighbour Kumaran.

The widower had ordered food as usual. But when the Swiggy packet remained untouched at his doorstep through the day, neighbours grew uneasy. As calls to Natarajan went unanswered, neighbours informed his son and alerted Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services (TNRFS).

Firefighters broke open the door and searched room by room. "Natarajan was eventually found unconscious in the bathroom. He was given immediate aid and rushed to hospital," TNRFS assistant district officer Suresh Kannan said.

Doctors treated him for dehydration and dizziness. The octogenarian has since made a steady recovery.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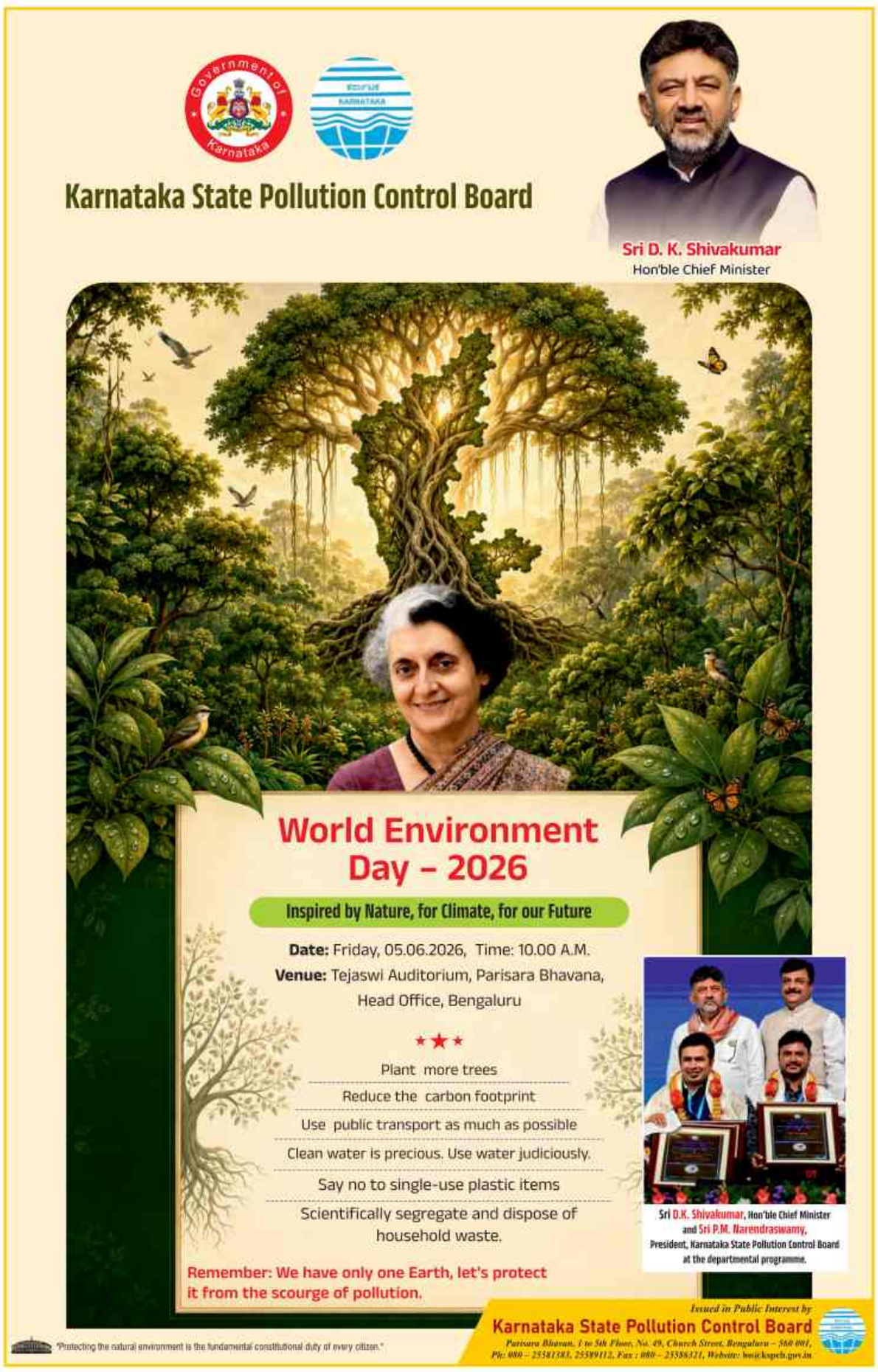
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Plant more trees
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Use public transport as much as possible
Clean water is precious. Use water judiciously.
Say no to single-use plastic items
Scientifically segregate and dispose of household waste.
Remember: We have only one Earth, let's protect it from the scourge of pollution.
Sri D.K. Shivakumar, Hon'ble Chief Minister and Sri P.M. Narendraswamy, President, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board at the departmental programme.
"Protecting the natural environment is the fundamental constitutional duty of every citizen."
Issued in Public Interest by
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Diljit Dosanjh's Aroma draws criticism from LGBTQ+ community

D

Scorsese endorses AI in filmmaking

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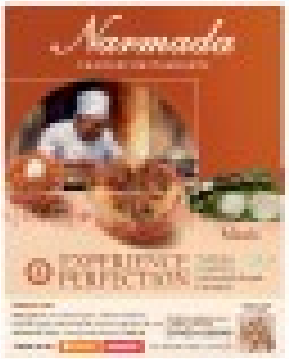

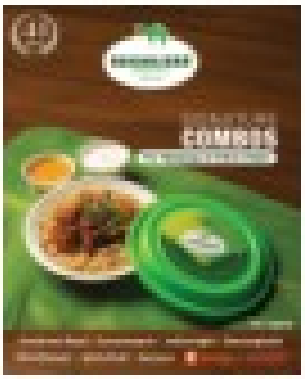

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Three killed in Bokaro after being hit by train

Bokaro: The bodies of three men were recovered from railway tracks near Lavatand, around 9km from Bokaro Steel City railway station in Jharkhand Thursday.

Bokaro govt railway police suspect the men got crushed by a train while they were drinking near the tracks. A motorcycle was recovered from the spot. TNN

Last yr, monsoon arrived 8 days early over Kerala

▸ Continued from P1

On its further progresss, Met dept said, "Conditions are favourable for further advance of southwest monsoon into some more parts of central Arabian Sea, entire Goa, some parts of Maharashtra & Andhra, some more parts of Karnataka, remaining parts of TN... and some parts of northeastern states during the next 2-3 days."

Last year, monsoon arrived over Kerala on May 24, eight days in advance. Early or late arrival of monsoon has nothing to do with the overall quantitative or spatial rainfall during rainy season. Delay in its progress over different states, however, impacts the sowing of paddy, maize, pulses and other Kharif (summer sown) crops. Progress of monsoon and its overall status depend on multiple climatic factors.

'Won't accept cross-border terrorism as routine'

Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi, *in an interview with* TOI's Surendra Singh, *speaks about drones being now central to India's battlefield operations and how Pak must deter from another terror attack. Excerpts:*

TOI INTERVIEW

Army played a key role in Op Sindoor. What are the lessons, and have we acted on them?

■ Op Sindoor demonstrated Indian armed forces' ability to deliver swift, precise and strategically coherent military outcomes in a compressed timeframe. Its greatest legacy is affirmation that integrated, multi-domain and technology-enabled operations are now the decisive template for the future battlefield. Army was at the centre stage of the orchestration of Op Sindoor. During the Op, it ensured its posture on other fronts remained stable and balanced. Op Sindoor was short, but we must not assume all future conflicts will be short. The armed forces must remain prepared for both compressed and high-intensity conflicts. This requires rapid mobilisation, seamless logistics, secure communications, resilient supply chains, sustained operational endurance and compressed decision cycles. Lessons from the operation are being incorporated into our doctrines, and our aim is to institutionalise those lessons.

Pakistan used a number of China-made weapon systems and Turkey-developed drones during the 2025 conflict. What steps have been taken since then to tackle such missile and drone threats?

■ Pakistan employed a range of imported systems, including China-origin platforms and Turkey-origin drones. We also saw signatures of external support and intelligence sharing. So, our response cannot be platform-specific alone. It has to be capability-based, covering surveillance, air defence, electronic warfare, counter-UAS systems, secure communications and real-time intelligence fusion. Since then, we have strengthened our response on multiple fronts. Layered air defence and counter-drone capabilities are being enhanced for troops, logistics nodes, ammunition areas, command centres and critical infrastructure. This includes sensors, jammers, spoofers, kinetic systems, and soft-kill and hard-kill.

In today's conflicts, as in Iran and Ukraine, use of different kinds of drones has become common. How well has Army integrated drones into the force?

■ Recent conflicts have shown drones are now central to battlefield operations. Ukraine has demonstrated the scale and innovation possible in drone warfare, while Iran-related conflicts have shown the challenge of long-range one-way attack drones. For Indian Army, the lesson is clear: Drones cannot remain specialised assets. They must be integrated into formations and sub-units. We have adopted a tiered approach. At infantry battalion level, Ashni drone platoons are being integrated to provide organic surveillance, target acquisition and tactical awareness. At formation level, larger UAS, loitering munitions and counter-UAS systems are being linked with artillery, air defence, aviation, intelligence and electronic warfare grids. Shaktibaan Regiments (specialised drone units) are part of this broader restructuring.

You served as GOC-in-C of the northern command and commanded the Rising Star Corps along the western front. Do you think our Army is prepared to take on both Pak and Chinese forces in case of two-front attacks?

■ I would describe the challenge not merely as a two-front threat but as a two-and-a-half-front challenge. We have to remain prepared for simultaneous threats along the northern and western borders while also retaining the ability to manage internal security challenges, proxy threats and the grey-zone activities that accompany modern conflict. This reality is well-recognised, and the Army remains fully prepared to meet such contingencies. We're strengthening our capability through restructuring and technology absorption. Our focus is clear: Deter where possible, respond decisively where required, and protect India's sovereignty with resolve.

Recently, you had said, 'Pak must decide whether it wants to remain part of geography or become history if it continues supporting cross-border terrorism.'

■ My statement was not about reckless escalation but about clear deterrence. The message is simple: India will not accept cross-border terrorism as routine. Any act of terrorism will invite a decisive response. Every response will depend on the nature of provocation, national objective and operational requirement. If Pak persists with cross-border terrorism, the cost will be heavy: India will act at a time, place and manner of its choosing.

What is the current situation along the LAC where China and India had amassed over 50,000 troops each since the 2020 faceoff? For how long will this eyeball-to-eyeball situation continue?

■ The situation along the northern borders is stable but sensitive. The agreement on disengagement has enhanced stability on the ground. We witnessed a significant thaw in bilateral ties in 2024-25. This is also reflected in ground commander-level interactions along the northern borders, where both sides are now sensitive to each other's concerns. There are several positive indicators, like the formulation of an experts' group for boundary delimitation, a working group for border management, resumption of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and direct flights, consensus on resumption of border trade through three border passes and visa relaxation measures. At the military level, more than 1,100 ground-level interactions take place annually between the two sides, including the most recent Corps commander-level talks. These engagements, along with patrolling, have facilitated grazing, hydrotherapy camps and religious activities.

With the Army regularly tackling threats from insurgents in Manipur, how can we improve the volatile situation in the state?

■ The situation in Manipur requires a balanced and sensitive approach, combining firm security measures with reconciliation, restoration of normal governance and community participation. The role of the Army and Assam Rifles is to create secure and stable conditions in which civil administration, dialogue and development can move forward.

Courts must not allow litigation to prolong decayed marriages: SC

Dhananjay.Mahapatra@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: SC has ruled that courts must not allow litigation to prolong a decayed and decomposed marriage, which is a deeply personal and social partnership built on mutual respect, as that would create a "foul sociological, psychological and mental hollowness" in life.

Using its exclusive powers under Art 142 of the Constitution to dissolve the marriage between two govt doctors living separately for 15 years, SC said, "Marriage, in its legal and constitutional dimension, can never be reduced to a mere contractual intersection of individual rights, nor can it be viewed via narrow lens of a petition for conjugal rights."

Marriage is a personal and social partnership built on mutual respect, shared expectations and equal responsibility, designed for a couple to weave a tapestry of interdependence that demands balancing of interests, a bench of Justices Sanjay Karol and A G Masih said.

Referring to the case, SC said intentional maintenance of distinct lifestyles, separate domiciles and total cessation of marital interaction for over 15 years established a de facto abandonment of the marital covenant by both sides. "When wife and husband have been living separately for over 15 years and all efforts for reconciliation have failed, it will not be possible for the parties to live together," SC said, dissolving the marriage under Art 142.

Not talking for a few days isn't cruelty, says SC; acquits husband

AmitAnand.Choudhary @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Observing that differences are a part and parcel of married life and may result in non-communication between partners, SC has said that a husband cannot be convicted of cruelty merely on the ground of not talking to his wife for a few days.

A bench of Justices J K Maheshwari and Atul S Chand acquitted a man who was convicted by trial court and Madras high court under Section 498A of IPC for subjecting his wife to cruelty and sentenced to a three-year jail term. He had not been on talking terms with his wife for 13 days, which led to her dying by suicide.

SC said, "Therefore, in absence of any material, mere non-communication with the deceased for thirteen days, without substantiating the same with cogent evidence, cannot, in any stretch of the imagination, fall within the ambit of cruelty in the facts of this case..."

The case was not even one where there was some quarrel between appellant and the deceased, due to which appellant could have been convicted by trial court, SC said. There was insufficient evidence to prove allegation of cruelty against the husband, something the high court judgment failed to take into account, it said.

SC said what needs to be determined is whether the gravity or seriousness of the act is of such a nature that it is likely to drive a woman to die by suicide or cause injury or pose danger to her mental health.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites tender of parcel handling operations, for participation through the GeM Portal.

Tender for awarding the contract of Parcel Handling Activities of loading, unloading and shifting of non-leased/departmental parcels/luggage between various Platforms & Parcel Offices and vice-versa at Bengaluru, Yesvantpur, Sir M Visveswaraya Terminus & Yelahanka Railway Stations over Bengaluru Division, South Western Railway.

Last date for submission of bids: **16.06.2026**

For details, log on: https://gem/gov/in

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Bengaluru

PUB/183/AAMD/PRB/SWR/2026-27

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GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER & BASIN MANAGER
TEL BASIN, BHAWANIPATNA, DIST. KALAHANDI
E-mail ID : cetelbasinbhp@gmail.com/ Phone No: 06670-230209

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-Procurement Notice No: CE&BM, TEL -P1-01/2026-27
Bid Identification No: CETEL-BOUDH-01/2026-27

The Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, Tel Basin, Bhawanipatna on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites on-line **percentage rate tender** through e-procurement in **double cover system.**

Table - 1: Details of Critical Dates, details of work, Bid Security

Pkg. No.	Name of work	Approx. Tender Cost in lakh	Class of Contractor	Bid Security/ EMD- (online)- (in INR)	Cost of tender document- (online)- (in INR)	Period of Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	"Slope Protection to the Right bank of river Tel at village Malikud of Kantamal Block under Boudh District (Working RD 54.200 km to 54.690 km)"	Rs. 6,31,59,045/- (Excluding G.S.T)	'A' & 'Special' Class	Rs. 6,31,590/-	Rs. 10,000/-	18 (Eighteen) Calendar Months

Table-2 : e-Procurement Details

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Date of Seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender		Place of opening
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, Tel Basin, Bhawanipatna	CETEL-BOUDH-01/2026-27	Dt. 08.06.2026 at 10.00 hours	Dt. 29.06.2026 up to 17.00 hours	Dt. 08.06.2026 to 26.06.2026 at Office during office hours.	Dt. 30.06.2026 at 11.00 Hours	To be intimated after evaluation of Technical Bid.	Office of Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, Tel Basin, Bhawanipatna

Further details can be seen from the Govt. Website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**
*Other Terms & conditions can be seen from the Government website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**
*The Corrigendum/cancellation of Tender, if any, will be uploaded and can be seen from the above website only.

Sd/- **Chief Engineer & Basin Manager**
Tel Basin, Bhawanipatna

OIPR-32001/32317/1/26-27/0001

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tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that our client, is intending to purchase of the immovable property described in the Schedule hereunder from Sri. Guninder Singh Chandok, Son of Late Sri. Ujagar Singh Chandok Residing at No.3 Nandi Durga Road Extn. Bangalore-560046, having acquired the property under a family Partition deed Registered as document No. **GAN-1:-02749-2007-08** dated **17.10.2007** In the office of the Sub Registrar, Gandhi Nagar (Ganga Nagar) Bangalore. If any person/s, financial institutions/Bank has any claim, right, interest or title over the Schedule property, the same may be made known to the undersigned in writing with documentary proof within **15 days** of this Notice from today, failing which it will be presumed that the schedule property is free from any such claim and any claim received thereafter will not bind my client and will not be entertained by my client.

SCHEDULE OF PROOPERTY

All that piece an d parcel of the immovable property including super built up structure consisting two floors, bearing old No.95, New No. 3, 7th Road, Nandi Durga Extension, Bangalore-560046 measuring East to West 44ft. North to South 65 feet + 67/2 bounded on **East by :** Site No. 94, **West by :** Site No.96, **North by:** Private land & **South by :** Road.

Sd/- E.K.THANKAPPAN,
BA, BGL, LLB
M. RAMESH, BA,LL.M.
ADVOCATES
No.49, 1st Floor, Opp 12th Cross Cubbon Pet Main Road, Bangalore-560002
Mobile No. 9845276609 & 9845465428

Place: Bangalore Date: 05-06-2026

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PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to Purchase with respect to properties mentioned and described in the Schedule hereunder, with its owner, **Mrs. Alice Carri,** wife of late Mr. S. X. Carri. The Owner represents that she is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property and have good marketable, right, title and interest therein and that apart from her, there are no other entity/ies, person/s having any right or claim over the Schedule Property. The Owner further represents that she has not entered into any Agreements/ MoU with any entity/ies, person/s and that she has not mortgaged, created any lien or encumbered the Schedule Property or any part thereof in any manner, to any person/s. Any person/s having objection/s or claim/s shall with documentary evidence, lodge their objection(s)/ claim(s) within **15 (Fifteen)** days from the date of publication of this Notice with the Undersigned failing which, my client shall proceed with the above-mentioned transaction.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the converted property bearing Sy.No.109, [A.L.N (Jala) S. R. 78/2014-15 dated 04-07-2015] PID No. 150200200900420843, measuring in total 6 Acres, situated at situated at Navarathna Agrahara Village, Jala Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District and bounded on

East by: Sy.Nos.108, 107, 106,
West by: Sy.No.110 and Gadenahalli boundary,
North by: Sy.No.114 &
South by: Gadenahalli boundary.
Place: Bengaluru
Date: 04.06.2026 Sd/-

RAVEENDRA T R, Advocate,
No.C-205, House of Lords, St.Marks Road, Bangalore-560001
Ph No. 96861 64255

TENDERS

UNION BANK OF INDIA
Procurement Department, 1st Floor, Union Bank Bhavan, 239 Vidhan Bhavan Marg, Nariman Point, Mumbai – 400 021

RFP FOR EMPANELMENT OF CONTACT POINT VERIFICATION AGENCIES FOR DUE DILIGENCE AND VERIFICATION IN RETAIL LOANS FOR DOMESTIC & NRI CUSTOMERS

Union Bank of India invites offers for Empanelment of Contact Point Verification agencies for Due Diligence and Verification in Retail Loans for Domestic & NRI Customers through Bank's Website and Govt. of India CPP portal. Further details are available on Bank's website **www.unionbankofindia.bank.in** and CPP portal **www.eprocure.gov.in.** **Last Date for receipt of offers in prescribed form is 25.06.2026 upto 03.00 PM.**

The bank reserves the rights to reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Assistant General Manager

TENDERS

SBI Payment Services Private Limited
23rd Floor, Urmi Estate, C.S. No. 156 of Lower Parel Division, Ganpatrao Kadam Marg, Lower Parel (W), Mumbai - 400013

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

SBI Payments has issued a Request For Proposal (RFP) for Office Revamp and additional Workstation Setup. For details please visit the website of SBI Payments: **www.sbipayments.com** Any further Addenda, Corrigenda/ Extension of date/clarifications in respect to the above RFP shall only be posted on SBI Payments website and no separate notification will be issued in newspaper.

Sd/-
Place:Mumbai Vice President
Date: 05.06.2026 (Vendor Management)

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Umamaheswari Ramamurthy Appakudal, W/o Srikanth Suryanarayanan, resident at no: 89, Alliance 10 Downing, Whitefield Hoskote Road, Kannamangala, Bengaluru, have changed my name to Umamaheswari Ramamurthy in all purposes, vide affidavit dated 03.06.2026 before notary R.Jyshree, Bangalore. Umamaheswari Ramamurthy Appakudal and Umamaheswari Ramamurthy are the same and one identical person.

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, GAURAV ASHISH SURAPURAJU, residing at #116, 22nd Cross, Basavanapura Main Road, Near Govt School, Gayathri Layout, Bangalore North, Krishnarajapuram, Bangalore – 560036, Karnataka, India, have changed my name to ASHISH GAURAV SURAPURAJU. Hereafter I shall be known by this name for all purposes.

I, Gokul S/O Selvam R/O No M-21, 2nd floor, 8th cross, Lakshminarayanapuram, puttaswamy road, bangalore 560021 changed my name as Gokul Selvam.

LOST & FOUND

ORIGINAL Gift Deed dated 02.09.2021 pertaining to Property No. 20 (Old), New No. 8, 2nd Cross, Modi Garden, Bengaluru – 560006, measuring 1310 sq. ft., is lost. E-Lost Report No. 2133271/2026 lodged. Any claim regarding the property or document may be notified to the undersigned within 15 days, failing which no claim will be entertained. Shaistha Raina, Mob: 8431995427 / 9738174606

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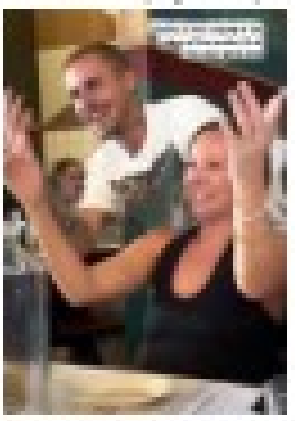
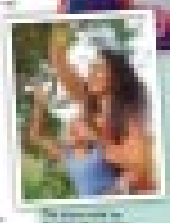


'I'm blessed that my children are growing up close to nature'



I was carrying a lie inside me and that was hurting me: Shilpa Shinde

'Don't have courage for NEET re-test, sorry mummy, papa'

Soumitra.Bose
@timesofindia.com

Nagpur: The intense pressure surrounding NEET-UG re-examination following the paper leak controversy claimed its first victim in Nagpur as an 18-year-old student, Akanksha Chaturvedi, died by suicide at her house in the city's Ajay Nagar locality on May 20.

The tragedy, however, came to light a fortnight later.

In a suicide note addressed to her parents, Akanksha wrote: "You reposed immense faith in me, but please forgive me for taking this step. I did very well in my first NEET, but I don't have the courage to appear again. I have wrecked all your resources. Forgive me for creating so much pressure on you."

Talking to TOI from Rewa in Madhya Pradesh, a family member said, the condition of her debt-ridden father, who suffered a paralytic attack two months ago, might have taken a toll on her. "Akanksha was euphoric after her first NEET attempt and was convinced she would succeed, but the paper leak left her shattered," said the relative.

Akanksha's father Krishnakumar Chaturvedi, who runs a catering business in Nagpur, said: "I still remember her cheerful face when she returned after the exam. 'Papa, I will definitely score more than 650 and crack NEET', she told me. She was sincere and determined, but the mounting exam pressure was overwhelming. She would study round-the-clock and even while having lunch. The re-exam announcement on May 3 came like a thunderbolt."

The family borrowed heavily, taking loans of around Rs 16 lakh from banks and relatives, including Rs 3 lakh from his 'kisan credit card', to fund her coaching, said sources. "My daughter promised to support her younger brother's studies after becoming a doctor. But now she's gone forever," said a devastated Krishnakumar.

Akanksha died by suicide when her family was taking a nap in the afternoon. The family found the suicide note on May 21.

Opposition members shredded the govt, with Congress MP Rahul Gandhi saying in a post on X: "Akanksha's death is not suicide — it is the gift of a corrupt, broken system under Modi ji."

AAP's Arvind Kejriwal said: "Conducting the exam again is not justice. The education mafia that has captured the govt must be eliminated."

Rahul: Youth paying for broken system

Congress MP Rahul Gandhi called the death of 18-year-old Akanksha — whose family claimed she killed herself after the cancellation of NEET-UG — as "not suicide, but a consequence of a corrupt, broken system under PM Narendra Modi". Rahul said Modi has ruined the education system to such an extent that "an entire young generation is paying the price for it". TNN

Odisha teenager rejects IIT-B seat to study with twin bro at another IIT

Bhubaneswar: For most engineering aspirants, securing a computer science seat at IIT-Bombay is the ultimate reward for years of hard work and determination. But, for twin brothers Mahroof Ahmed Khan and Masroor Ahmed Khan from Odisha, staying together and supporting each other matters as much as academic success, individual achievement, **reports Diana Sahu**.

Mahroof and Masroor, aged 18, were born two minutes apart. Growing up, they have been inseparable. And now, both have cracked JEE Advanced. While IIT-Bombay seemed a dream come true for Mahroof with AIR 32, Masroor would not have made it to the institute with his AIR 169.

The brothers' journey to a tech degree will be a testament to their love, bonding and sacrifice, as Mahroof has decided to forgo the coveted IIT-B seat and join the institute where his brother secures admission.

Subhash Kashyap, expert on constitutional law and parliamentary affairs, dead

New Delhi: Subhash C Kashyap, whose encyclopaedic knowledge of constitutional law and parliamentary affairs made him the go-to person for politicians, bureaucrats and journalists alike, and whose book on parliament became best-sellers and mandatory reading for students of political science and law, passed away at his residence following "cardio-pulmonary arrest" on Thursday morning. He was 97, **reports Avijit Ghosh**.

Kashyap served as Lok Sabha's Secretary General from 1984-90, but was associated with Parliament for over three and a half decades. "Be it privilege motions, anti-defection law, impeachment, expelling or disciplining members, he was the person everyone consulted whenever there was a dispute related to parliamentary procedure," said former Prasar Bharti Chairman, A Surya Prakash, who as a journalist reported extensively on Parliament. Born in May 1929 in Chandpur village in United Provinces' (now UP) Bijnor district, Kashyap came from a family of freedom fighters. As a teenager, he actively participated in the national struggle for independence leading local student movements in Bijnor and Meerut, a biographical note said.

He launched his professional career as a journalist, taught at University of Allahabad, and trained as an advocate in the same city before joining Parliament.

SPOTLIGHT

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SPOTLIGHT

Ramaiah Group and University at Albany Launch RISM

■ (From L to R) Dr M R Jayaram, chancellor, RISM, and Dr Havidán Rodríguez, president, University at Albany, exchange greetings during the launch of the Ramaiah Institute of Science and Management (RISM) in Bengaluru, alongside senior leaders from both institutions

The Ramaiah Group's Gokula Education Foundation (Medical), in collaboration with the University at Albany, State University of New York, launched Ramaiah Institute of Science and Management (RISM), India's first distinct greenfield deemed-to-be university in Bengaluru.

Conceived as a next-generation STEM and management university, RISM will deliver a globally benchmarked, industry-embedded engineering and management education that prioritises resilience, translational research, and measurable societal impact.

'Build the Future' is embedded across RISM's curriculum and culture. RISM's main residential campus is being developed in Bengaluru's Information Technology Investment Region near Devanahalli, close to major innovation hubs and industry anchors. Academic operations will begin from a transit campus in Yelahanka in August 2026, with the main campus scheduled for full operation by September 2028. All programmes will follow a fully residential model to support holistic development through sports, culture, wellness, leadership, and entrepreneurship initiatives, creating an immersive environment where industry context, academic rigour, and research converge to build the future.

SPEECH EXCERPTS FROM THE INAUGURAL EVENT

Dr M R Jayaram, chairman and trustee of Gokula Education Foundation (Medical) and chancellor of Ramaiah Institute of Science and Management, described the day as a great day for the institution. "It has taken almost 25 years of dreaming of what has come true today." He traced his journey of lifelong commitment and experiential learning in higher education that helped to launch a transformative higher education system that brings in the new change of teaching institutions to true learning institutions.

THE VISION BEHIND THE INSTITUTION

Dr Jayaram explained that India's education sector has lagged behind industry liberalisation since 1990, creating a 40-year gap between industry needs and educational outcomes. RISM was conceived to bridge this chasm through experiential, outcome-based learning embedded with industry from day one.

U ALBANY - GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE PARTNERSHIP

A defining feature of RISM is its knowledge partnership with the University at Albany (State University of New York), chosen after 18 months of searching. Dr Jayaram emphasised: "We wanted a knowledge partnership, not a partnership for university knowledge as a service you pay for, that is just commerce. We were looking for something more." He affirmed that the partnership's depth, centred on co-developed curriculum, faculty engagement, shared academic standards, international pathways and research collaboration.

Dr Havidán Rodríguez, president, University at Albany, State University of New York, stated that, "Higher education systems built decades or centuries ago served an economy that no longer exists; RISM is being built from the ground up to thrive in today's rapidly changing economy—and to lead it, not just follow it."

Rodriguez highlighted that RISM's DNA is infused with industry and global collaboration, ensuring students solve real-world problems in AI, cybersecurity, semiconductors, health equity, and climate change. He concluded with UAlbany's motto: "Today, like every single day, it is a great day to be a Great Dane," declaring that "today is a true manifestation of what a truly transformational partnership can do for our countries."

Gurucharan Gollerkeri, executive director and chief strategy officer, in his strategic address, stated that "RISM will be uniquely focused on STEM and management disciplines, offering rigorous foundational science programmes designed to develop transferable technology skills. The institute will emphasise industry-embedded capstone projects that follow the principle of doing is learning, and will promote translational research that encourages students to apply knowledge for societal benefit.

Professor Raghunandan, chairman, Task Force RISM, explaining how RISM will distinguish itself across India's higher-education echelons stated, "We must move from being mere teaching institutions to becoming learning institutions—combining knowledge with practice, embedding industry partners, and benchmarking ourselves against global standards, so that ideas move from lab to prototype, prototype to validation, validation to market, and market to societal impact, and in the age of AI, we reinforce what makes us human: curiosity, creativity, judgment, ethics, empathy, and the ability to work across disciplines."

The views expressed herein are of the respective individual panellists and BCCL does not endorse and is not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein.

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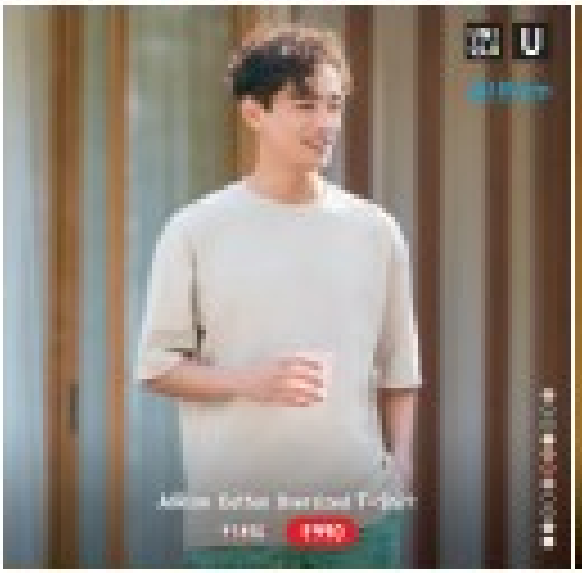

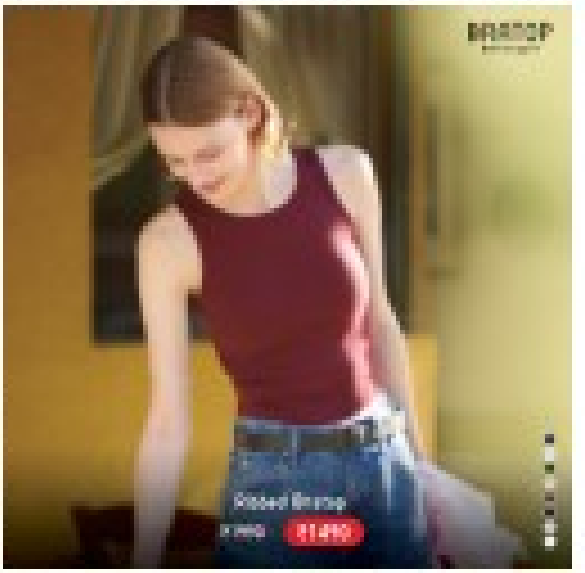

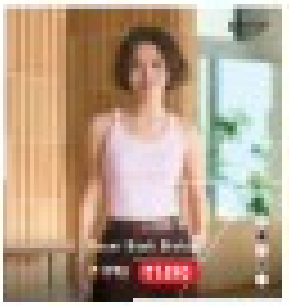

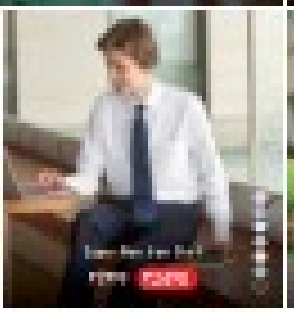

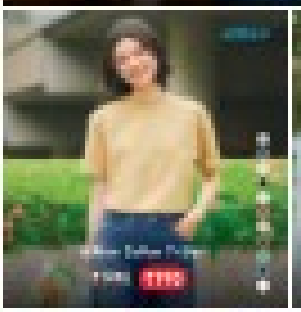

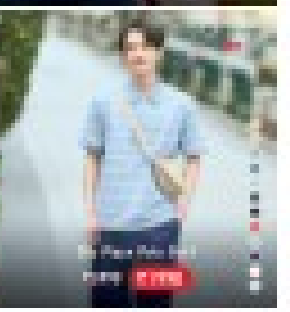

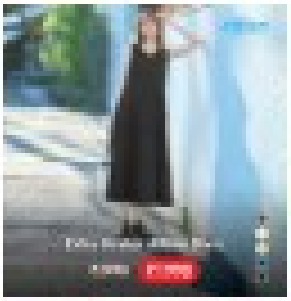

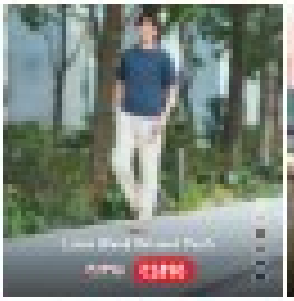

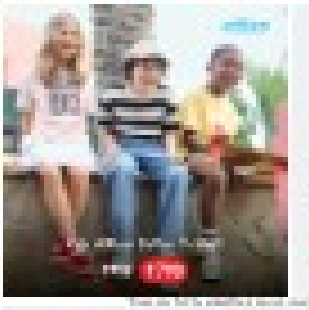

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MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Bid Submission Schedule (Online)	Opening Technical Bid (Online)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Roads Division No. 3			
1.	Development of Street for people at V-4 Road, Sector-15, Chandigarh. Capital Head : Improvement of road\parking and infrastructure facilities. Est. Cost : Rs. 939.81 Lacs Earnest Money : Rs.18,79,630/- Time Limit :12 Months	05.06.2026 To 18.06.2026 upto 12.00 noon	18.06.2026 at 15.00 PM

Note :- 1) Tender Notice alongwith detailed terms and conditions is available/uploaded on website at www.chandigarh.gov.in or etenders.chd.nic.in

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Roads Division No.3, Room No.311 Ph. 0172-5021482, M.C. Chandigarh xenroad3.mcc@chd.nic.in

CHAMUNDESHWARI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Corporate Office, procurement Section, CESC, Mysuru-570017.
Ph: 9448994705, Email ID: gmpurc@cescmysore.org Website: www.cescmysore.org

CESC/GM(P)/DGM(P)/AGM(P-2)/M(P-1)2026-27/ 5817 Date: 02.06.2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-procurement Portal Only)

CESC, Mysore invites Short Term Tenders from eligible bidders for Services as mentioned below:

Sl No.	Service	Name of the Sub Section	Tender No
1	Arranging shift, minor maintenance and housekeeping works at 33/11kV Sub-station coming under the jurisdiction of O&M Division Madikeri for a period of one year on total turnkey basis	Siddapura	CESCOM/2025-26/SE0271 /CALL-2
2		Murnadu	CESCOM/2025-26/SE0272 /CALL-2

The details regarding participation in the tender can be obtained through e-procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **02-06-2026** . For clarification contact help desk **080-46010000/22631200/68948777** or e-mail address **support@eprochelpdesk.com.**

For Electricity related complaints Call: 1912

Sd/- General Manager (Procurement), CESC, Mysuru

DIPR/MYSORE/268/SSC/2026-27

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE

Police Computer Wing, Karnataka State Police, Gate-1, 7th Floor, M.S. Building, Bengaluru-560001. Phone: 080-22254790, email: dgppcw@ksp.gov.in, spscrb@ksp.gov.in

No.: 05/STS/DIGP/PCW/2026-27 Dated : 04.06.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Director General of Police, Police Computer Wing, Karnataka State Police, Bengaluru invited the following tenders through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** for ***Supply, installation and Maintenance of various items*** as detailed below

Sl. No.	Description	Tender No. and Date	Approx. Tender value in Rs Lakhs	Last Date for tender submission
1	Providing Cloud Services	KSP/2026-27/SE0099 21-05-2026	348.00	20.06.2026
2	Mobile Forensic Acquisition and Analysis Tool Along With Workstations	KSP/2026-27/IND0613 22-05-2026	7500.00	22.06.2026
3	Mobile Forensic Acquisition and Analysis Tool Cellebrite Inseyets.	KSP/2026-27/IND0615 22-05-2026	819.66	22.06.2026
4	Medium End Laptops	KSP/2026-27/IND0617 27-05-2026	16.71	11.06.2026
5	LAN Cabling and OFC Extension	KSP/2026-27/IND0618 30-05-2026	1400.00	29.06.2026

The information on Pre-bid meeting, Tender Schedule and other details can be obtained at KPP portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For more information, please contact the above office.

Sd/-
Director General of Police
Computer Wing, Karnataka State Police, Bengaluru
& Tender Inviting Authority

DIPR/CP/991/SA/2026-27

Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation Ltd.

(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
KMDC Bhavan, No.32/821, 2nd Floor, Subedhar Chatram Road,
Opp. Sheshadripuram Police Station, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru-560 020.

No. K.M.D.C/CR/P. N/2026-27/656 Dated: 04.06.2026

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation Ltd., Bengaluru invites e-tenders from eligible agencies for providing services for various Training programs under Community Based Training Scheme for the financial year 2026–27. The tender details are as follows:

Sl. No.	TENDER NO	Program/Service Name	Estimated amount Rs. (in lakhs)
1.	KMDCL/2026-27/ SE0027/CALL-2	INDUSTRY READY FUTURE SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAM IN IT / ITeS IN ASSOCIATION WITH C-DAC FOR **BANGALORE DISTRICT.**	392.00
2.	KMDCL/2026-27/ SE0028/CALL-2	INDUSTRY READY FUTURE SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAM IN IT / ITeS IN ASSOCIATION WITH C-DAC FOR **KALBURGI & MANGALORE DISTRICT.**	280.00
3.	KMDCL/2026-27/ SE0031/CALL-2	CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANTS. **(CIMA)** ON LINE COACHING.	43.50

Starting date for submission of tenders: 05.06.2026, Last date for submission of tender: 19.06.2026.

For detailed information, please visit the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPPP) at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/.** The Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on **11.06.2026 at 11:00 a.m.** at KMDC Bhavan, Seshadri Puram, Head Office of the Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation Limited (KMDCL), Bengaluru. For further information, please contact **Tel: 080-22860999.** In case of any clarification, the General Manager, Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation Limited (KMDCL), Bengaluru, may be contacted.

Sd/-
Managing Director and Tender Inviting Authority

DIPR/CP/RO980/AAPL/2026-27

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER

(Only Through KPP Portal)

BWSSB invites Tenders in Two Stage Tender System from Registered Contractors for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (IP, R&D), 3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009

Sl No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender / EMD Amount
IFT No:BWSSB/CE(IP,R&D)/ACE(IP,R&D)-II/TA/419/2026-27		**Date: 01-06-2026**
1.	Design, Build, Finance, Supply, Install, Operate, Maintain and Transfer Biogas Purification and Compression Systems for a Concession Period of 20 Years under Public Private Partnership mode within BWSSB jurisdiction across Bengaluru, Karnataka.	- / ₹ 77.00 Lakhs

For the above Work, The last date for submission of completed tender documents is on **06-07-2026** upto **16:00** hrs. Tenders will be Opened on **07-07-2026** after **16:00** hrs.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (IP,R&D)

Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009

IFT No:BWSSB/CE(E)/ACE(E)-II/DCE(E)/TA(E)/864/2026-27		**Date: 03-06-2026**
2.	Tender for the Work of diversion of 1800mm dia Cauvery Stage IV Phase II water supply pipeline at ORR Service road of Bellanduru village for construction of BBMP Road Culvert across ORR near RMZ Eco space coming under Haraluru Service station of AEE SE-3 Sub Division. (Call-5) Indent No. 2777	₹ 164.93 Lakhs / ₹ 2,47,400/-

For the above Work, The last date for submission of completed tender documents is on **12-06-2026** upto **16:00** hrs. Tenders will be Opened on **15-06-2026** after **12:00** pm

Sd/- Chief Engineer (East)

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/SI/969/2026-27

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

CPM/GSU/Chakradharpur, South Eastern Railway acting for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tenders against open Tender. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Tender Notice No.: CKP-GSU-26-27-01, Dated: 03.06.2026. Name of work:** Balance work of Soft Upgradation of Rajgangpur station and construction of One Unit Type-IV quarter in connection with Amrit Bharat station Scheme under the jurisdiction of Sr.DEN (West)/Chakradharpur. **Tender Value:** ₹ 10,66,76,774.35. **EMD:** ₹ 21,33,500. **Cost of Tender form:** ₹ 0. **Date of Opening:** 24.06.2026. **Period of Completion:** 09 Months. The tender can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in**. The tenderer/ bidders must have class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered under on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. All relevant paper must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-tendering. **Note:** e-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. (Authority– Railway Board's letter no. 2020/CE-I/CT/3E/GCC/Policy dtd. 16.07.2020). **(PR-274)**

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICES

The following **e-Tenders** can be accessed under the link **www.ireps.gov.in**. Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link **www.ireps.gov.in. → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply**. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy. CMM/M-II/CLW/Chittaranjan, 9163340708 or AMM/M,9163340706 for all tender notices. Office Address: Office of The PCMM /CLW/Chittaranjan. **[A] Notice No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 01/06/2026. Sl. No.: [1]. Tender No.: 75263877. Brief Description of Item:** Filler Assly. for WAG-9HC Loco as per CLW Specn. no. CLW/MS/3/012 Alt.6. Drg. & set details attached. [**Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity: 688.00 Set. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹2000000.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST):27/06/2026 at 11:00 AM. [B] Notice No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 01/06/2026. Sl. No.: [1]. Tender No.: 75264030. Brief Description of Item:** Cab Assly Complete for WAG-9HC Loco, as per Spec. No. CLW/MS/3/154, Alt-3 or latest. Cat no. R/9/0082 (As per set details attached). [**Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity:349.00 Set. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹2000000.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST):03/07/2026 at 11:00 AM. [C] Notice No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 02/06/2026. Sl. No.:[1]. Tender No.: 75264021. Brief Description of Item:** Side Sill Assly. For WAG-9HC As Per SPEC NO. CLW/MS/3/154, Alt-3 or latest (As per set details attached). [**Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity: 270.00 Set. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹1332780.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST): 02/07/2026 at 11:00 AM. [D] Notice No. COS/CRJ/ PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 02/06/2026. Sl. No.:[1]. Tender No.: 75264087. Brief Description of Item:** Cab Side Door for WAG-9HC Loco, as per CLW's Specn. No. CLW/MS/3/013 ALT-6, Category No. R/9/0089. (Drg. as per Set Details attached) [**Warranty Period** : 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity: 297.00 Set. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹655290.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST):26/06/2026 at 11:00 AM.**

[PR4/364] PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan

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MSME-TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

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Process & Product Development Centre
प्रक्रिया एवं उत्पाद विकास केंद्र
An Autonomous body under Ministry of MSME, Govt of India
Foundry Nagar, Agra - 282006 (U.P.)
Extension Centre Thiruvalla Organizes

EV Charging Station Business

Course Content : • *Electric Vehicle Policies (State & Central Government)* • *Business models in the EV market* • *Types of Charging Stations (CS)* • *Charging station implementation mechanisms* • *Public charging infrastructure requirements* • *Database of public EV charging stations* • *Tariff rates for electricity supply to EV Public Charging Stations (EV PLS)* • *EV Charging Station (EVCS) models* • *Rate contracts and land leasing* • *Solar-powered EV charging station technology* • *Challenges in the EV market.*

Scan QR for Online Registration

Date/ दिनांक: 13,14,20 & 21 June 2026.
Time/ समय: 6 PM TO 8.30 PM.
Fees/ शुल्क: 3540/- (Including GST)
Website: ppdcagra.dcmsme.gov.in
Contact Number: 9944971623, 8129988725
CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED

RAIL COACH FACTORY, KAPURTHALA

On-line bids are invited by PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India for following items:-

S. No.	Tender No. and Due Date	Description	Quantity (Nos./Sets)	EMD (Rs.)
1.	02261215 02.07.2026	60 KVA Transformer		20,00,000/-
2.	05261315 23.06.2026	Flat Roof Assly for Vande Bharat TC Type Coaches. PL No./Item Code - 33564310	68 Set	4,29,520/-
3.	05261314 22.06.2026	Flat Roof for LHB AC 2 Tier Coaches. PL No./Item Code - 33554304	333 Nos.	2,23,310/-
4.	05261146C 24.06.2026	Set of Flat Roof for HS Spart Tool Van 1 Coaches. PL No./ Item Code - 33548298	28 Sets	3,90,150/-
5.	05261316 14.07.2026	Front Part	620 Sets	NIL
6.	13245381B 26.06.2026	Optical Emission Spectrometer for Testing of Safety Critical Items. PL No./Item Code - 659027950010	01 No.	2,00,000/-
7.	17261094 29.06.2026	Supply and Installation of Interior Furnishing of One Rake	2 Sets	20,00,000/-
	Set of Namo Bharat Rapid Rail (16 Car Formation).			
8.	17261199 30.06.2026	Manufacture, Supply, Installation and Supervision of	6 Sets	9,36,610/-
	Interior Furnishings, Fittings, Driver's Cab's Furnishing of High-Speed Self Propelled Inspection Car (HS-SPIC).			
9.	05261270 24.06.2026	Supply and Installation of Body Shell Items and Partition Frames	4 Sets 8 Sets 8 Sets	85,470/-
10.	12261087 01.07.2026	Emergency Openable Window, as per Drawing:MI008176 ALT b (PL Number - 33564152)	326 Nos.	1,35,030/-
11.	12251278A 06.07.2026	Inter-Coach Gangway including Vestibule Foot Plate without	756 Sets	20,00,000/-
	Flexible Interior System Furnishing for LHB (Amrit Bharat) Coaches. As per Drawing No. : ICF/MD/SPEC-369, Issue Status-01, REV-00 along with amendments-01 to 05 which also include Annexure BZ, REV-03 Dated 30.01.2026. (PL Number - 33566811)			
12.	05261305 02.07.2026	(1.) 2-Types of End Wall for Vande Bharat Coaches. PL No. - 33552400	33 Sets	1,17,570/-
		(2.) PL No. - 33552423	16 Sets	
13.	05261278 01.07.2026	(1.) Set of Carline for MEMU DMC 3-Phase Coaches. PL No. - 31103297	96 Sets	6,54,640/-
		(2.) PL No. - 31985725	247 Sets	
14.	05261303 08.07.2026	(1.) End Wall Assembly for LHB GS & SCN (Amrit Bharat) Coaches	969 Nos.	20,00,000/-
	(2.) Set of End Wall Assly for LHB SLRD Amrit Bharat Coaches		38 Sets	
15.	05261320 13.07.2026	(1.) Set of End Part (Driving & Non-Driving End) for 3 Phase MEMU/DMC.	40 Sets	20,00,000/-
	(2.) End Part Complete for 3 Phase MEMU TC Coach.		311 Nos.	
16.	05261290 25.06.2026	Door Frame Assembly	1920 Nos.	7,47,650/-
17.	02261235 02.07.2026	External Emergency Light	494 Sets	3,78,900/-
18.	07261092 29.06.2026	Mig Brazing Wire Dia 0.8 MM in Spool of Weight 12.5 kg	3010 Kg.	1,16,150/-

1. For details and making on-line bids, visit website **http://ireps.gov.in.** Drawings/specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF website **http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in.** Class III-b digital signature certificate required for on-line bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at **http://www.cce.gov.in. 2.** Tenders will close at 14.25 Hrs. on due date and tenders will be opened at 14.30 hrs. Tender at Sl. No. 1 to 15 will be opened at RCF Kapurthala and Sl. No. 16 to 18 at Tilak Bridge, New Delhi. **3.** For queries, contact IREPS Helpdesk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF helpdesk at 011-23378658.

Note: GST Number of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them. **PCMM**

R.O. No. 23-S/2026-27 **Dated 04.06.2026**

DEPARTMENT OF MINORITY WELFARE

No.16C, Maulana Azad Bhavan,Miller Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagara, Bengaluru - 560 052. **Telephone: 080-22535901/918/Helpline:8277799990**

Notification

No: MWD/D/HOSTEL AD/CR-05/2026-27 **Date: 03.06.2026**

Online applications are invited for Post-metric hostels (P.U.C, ITI & Diploma students only) of Minority Welfare Department.

Online Applications are invited for admission into post-metric boys/girls hostels (P.U.C, ITI & Diploma students only) in the Minority Welfare Department for the year of 2026-27 from the students of Minority Community (Muslim, Christian, Jain, Sikh, Buddha and Parsi students and belonging to Other Castes (SC, ST & other Backward Caste) of the Karnataka.

- Students are advised to apply online for this link **https://shp.karnataka.gov.in**
- **Last date to apply online for Post-metric hostels(P.U.C, ITI & Diploma students only) is 30.06.2026.**
- Student's family annual income should not exceed **Rs.2.50 Lakhs.**
- For details of taluk-wise student hostels, eligibility for admission & details of documents to be submitted. Visit : **https://dom.karnataka.gov.in**
- In case of technical difficulties while applying online application you can contact through **Email:directorgokdom@gmail.com OR Website:- https://dom.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Director
Directorate of Minorities, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/976/MAA/2026-27

32001/327/2627

Government of Odisha
Department of Water Resources
OFFICE OF THE
ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, JICA PROJECT CIRCLE,
AT/PO-SUKINDA, DIST- JAJPUR (ODISHA), PIN - 755018
e-mail: sescc2011@gmail.com

e-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (LCB)

Bid identification Number and Date	**ACE JPC-01/2026-27**
Package	**Package -K**
Name of works -	Construction of field channel works under Rengali Left Bank Canal System **6 (SIX) Nos.**
Tender cost of work (INR)	**Rs.160.02 Lakh to 381.92 Lakh**
Bid Security (INR) (Online)	1% (As per DTCN)
Bid Submission Fee (INR) (Online)	Rs. 10,000.00 (online)
Period of Completion	12 (Twelve) calendar months including monsoon
Eligible Class of Bidder	"A Class" & "B Class" Odisha PWD or equivalent class of other licensing authority
Tender Document and the terms and conditions of contract and other necessary documents are available in	web-site **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** and can be seen in this web-site and downloaded
On-line bidding Period, date and time	**08.06.2026 - 10.00 AM to 22.06.2026 - 5.30 PM**
Date, time and venue of opening of Technical Bid on line	**23.06.2026 - 11.00 AM** in office of the Additional Chief Engineer, JICA Project Circle, Sukinda.
Date time and venue of opening of financial bid	TO BE INTIMATED TO THE QUALIFIED BIDDERS AFTER EVALUATION OF TECHNICAL BID. (Cover - I)

Further details can be seen at the web-site www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Sd/-
ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER,
JICA PROJECT CIRCLE, SUKINDA.

OIPR-32001/32501/1/26-27/0001

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
e-TENDER NOTICE No: SC4 / 20014 /2026; Date: 03.06.2026

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, the Chief Engineer (AE), Agricultural Engineering Department, 467, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035 invites tender for the Rate Contract Tender (RCT) for Empanelment of firms for Design, Fabrication and Installation of Solar Powered Fencing Unit under Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) subsidy scheme for the year 2026-27 and 2027-28 as detailed below as per the terms and conditions and detailed specification listed in the tender document.

Tender No.	Tender for the supply of	EMD (Rs. in lakh)
AED/SC4/ 20014/2026	Rate Contract Tender (RCT) for Empanelment of firms for Design, Fabrication and Installation of Solar Powered Fencing Unit under Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) subsidy scheme to be implemented by Agricultural Engineering Department in Tamil Nadu for the year 2026-27 and 2027-28	1.00

The tender documents with detailed specifications and price bid format are available in **www.tntenders.gov.in** as per schedule below. Tender documents and Price Bid Format can be downloaded, filled and shall be uploaded online through Internet Explorer or Microsoft Edge from the site **www.tntenders.gov.in** at free of cost.

e-Tender Publishing Date and Time	**05.06.2026, 12.00 Noon**
Pre Bid Meeting	**17.06.2026, 03.00 PM**
Tender document download – Start Date and Time	**05.06.2026, 12.00 Noon**
Bid submission - Start Date and Time	**05.06.2026, 03.00 PM**
Bid Submission - Closing Date and Time	**07.07.2026, 03.00 PM**
Bid opening Date and Time	**07.07.2026, 03.30 PM**

The e-Tenders will be opened online through www.tntenders.gov.in on the date and time mentioned above at the office of the Chief Engineer (AE), Agricultural Engineering Department, Nandanam, Chennai.

DIPR / 2002 / TENDER / 2026 **Chief Engineer (AE)**

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in
GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited
Regd. Office : Plot No. 10, Paigah Colony, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad-500003 Telangana, India CIN : U40109TG1997PLC028483
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Guru Amar Das Thermal Power Limited, GATPL)
(A step down wholly owned subsidiary of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, PSPCL)

HOD - Electrical, GATP, Goindwal Sahib, invites E-Tender for the work of :

1 **Tender Enquiry No.159/GATP/EMD/CHP/20017860 dated 04/06/2026**
Procurement of Crusher Motor, 600KW, 3 Phase, 6600V AC, RPM:743, MAKE: ABB at GATP at 2X270 MW Guru Amardas Thermal Plant (GATP), Goindwal Sahib, Distt.: Tarn Taran, Punjab as per details given in the tender specifications.

For detailed NIT & tender specifications, please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from **04/06/2026** from 17:00 Hrs. onwards.

Note : Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

GATP-52/26, DPR/Pb.:1079/12/2026-27/12011

UTTARAKHAND CIVIL AVIATION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION) (GOVERNMENT OF UTTARAKHAND)
SAHASTRADHARA HELIDROME, P.O. KULHAN, DEHRADUN- 248001, UTTARAKHAND
EMAIL: UCADADOON@GMAIL.COM; WEBSITE: WWW.UCADA.IN

Ref. No.: 4608/UCADA/2026 DATE: 04/06/2026

E-TENDER NOTICE

Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA) Dehradun invites proposals from eligible aviation agency(s) to submit their proposals/bids for the following packages.

S. No.	Name of Package	Date of Start of downloading the document	Date of Pre-Bid Meeting	Last Date of submission of bids	EMD (INR)
1.	Selection of Helicopter Operator for Disaster Management Services and Other Miscellaneous Purposes for Kumaon Region for a period of two months (Ref.No.:4608/01/RFP/DISASTER MANAGEMENT / KUMAON/ UCADA/2026)	05/06/2026	09/06/2026	20/06/2026	2,00,000/-

Details can be obtained from the website **www.uktenders.gov.in** and/or **www.ucada.in** from **05/06/2026, 12:00 PM**. The proposal must be submitted online on the portal, **www.uktenders.gov.in** only. **Note:- 1.** The corrigendum for the above packages will be uploaded on website **www.uktenders.gov.in** & / or **www.ucada.in 2.** Email Id **ucadadoon@gmail.com, ucadahoo@gmail.com** & **procurement.ucada@gmail.com** may be contacted for any information.

ACEO, UCADA

DIRECTORATE OF ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF CITIZEN SERVICES (EDCS)

Suvarna Bhavan Building, 3rd Floor, 18th Cross,
Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560 055.
Ph: 080-22230281, Fax:080-22230282 **email:**dir-edcs@karnataka.gov.in

No: EDCS/14/ADM/2020-K1-EDCS (322126) **Date:**04.06.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Applications have been invited from eligible BIDDERS for the below mentioned tenders invited through eprocurement platform of government of Karnataka **Website:** https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

1) Tender No - DPAREGOV/2025-26/SE0036/CALL-2 (Request for proposal (RFP) for selection of Banking partner for Bangalore one & Karnataka one Project of Directorate of Electronic Delivery of Citizen Services) Eligible bidders shall apply on or before 20.06.2026, 4:30 PM.

Sd/-
Director
Directorate of EDCS

DIPR/CP/987/CCL/2026-27

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in
GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited
Regd. Office : Plot No. 10, Paigah Colony, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad-500003 Telangana, India CIN : U40109TG1997PLC028483
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Guru Amar Das Thermal Power Limited, GATPL)
(A step down wholly owned subsidiary of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, PSPCL)

Competency
Office: OFFICE OF THE Plant-Head/GATP,
PROCUREMENT CELL, GATP, Goindwal Sahib

Expression of Interest

Office of the Plant-Head/GATP, Procurement cell, Goindwal Sahib Invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested parties for "Setting up a Cement Plant at GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Ltd., Goindwal Sahib on a land of 50 Acres on lease basis initially for 33 years". Detail of the scope of work is available at our website **www.pspcl.in** Last date for submission 30.06.2026 at 11.00 AM.

NOTE: Corrigendum and amendment, if any will be published online at official PSPCL. Website. **www.pspcl.in**

GATP-53/26, DPR/Pb.:1079/12/2026-27/12013

Government of Rajasthan
National Health Mission, Rajasthan

Department of Medical, Health & Family Welfare, Swasthya Bhawan, Jaipur.
Tel. No. 0141-2225736, E-Mail ID: ce-mh-raj@gov.in

No:- 1053 **Date:- 27.05.26**

E-NIT No-13/2026-27 on EPC MODE

Online tenders are invited in prescribed format from experienced contractors registered in Public Works Department/State Government/ Authorized organizations of Central Government/ Central Public Works Department/ Department of Posts and Telecommunications/ Railways etc. in appropriate category for Building Construction works on EPC Mode in Medical and Health Department, Rajasthan, who are equivalent to the contractors of appropriate category of Rajasthan Government.

Total number of Works	02
Total NIT cost (Rs. in lakhs)	6285.00
Date of online download & upload	29 May 2026 to 18 June 2026 Evening 6:00 PM
Date of technical Bid opening	19 June 2026 11:00 AM

Details related to the tender can be seen on DIPR website www.dipronline.Org, www.sppp.raj.nic.in http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and departmental website http://rajswasthya.nic.in.

UBN:-

S. No.	UBN Number
1	NRH2627WLOB00291
2	NRH2627WLOB00291

Chief Engineer
Medical and Health
Rajasthan, Jaipur

DIPR/C/9697/2026

(DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION)

Karnataka Text Book Society(R)

6th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560 003
E-mail:mdktbs.tender@gmail.com **Website:**https://textbooks.karnataka.gov.in
No.A7/E104450/KTBS/ADM/PUTN/2/2026/KTBS/26-27/IND0020 Date: 04.06.2026

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through e-Procurement portal only)

07 days Short term Tender is invited under Two Bid System **for the year 2026-27 on Government of Karnataka e-procurement platform from eligible Printers, having Infrastructure as specified in the Tender Document to Print and Supply PUC Text Books, Package wise payable EMD details are mentioned under section 10 of the tender document.**

Eligible printers may offer their bidding **up to 5.30 PM on 11.06.2026.** Tender document is available in e-portal as well as department website.

E-procurement portal address: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Portal Help line: +91-9240214000 / +91-9240214001
Department Website:**https://textbooks.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Managing Director,
Karnataka Text Book Society (R) Bengaluru

34001/301/2627

Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice
WORKS DEPARTMENT
Bid Identification No. CCEKC - 04/2026-27
e-mail: ccekeonjharpwdcircle@gmail.com/sekcpwd_keonjhar@yahoo.com
Letter No. 2715 dt.30.05.2026

1.	Name of the work	: Fixing of Wall Tiles at Common Corridor area of Block "A", Block "B" & Block "C" of Teaching Hospital at DDMCH, Keonjhar
2.	Estimated cost	: Rs. 129.06 Lakhs
3.	Class of Contractor	: "B" & "A" Class
4.	Period of completion	: 05 (Five) Calendar Months
5.	Date and Time of availability of Bid document in the portal	: From 11.00 Hours of 08.06.2026 to 17.00 Hours of 22.06.2026
6.	Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal	: 17.00 Hours of 22.06.2026
7.	Date of opening of Bid from Portal	: 11.30 Hours on 23.06.2026
8.	Name and address of the officer inviting Bid	: Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar-758001.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "**http://tendersodisha.gov.in**"

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar

OIPR-34001/34033/1/26-27/0008

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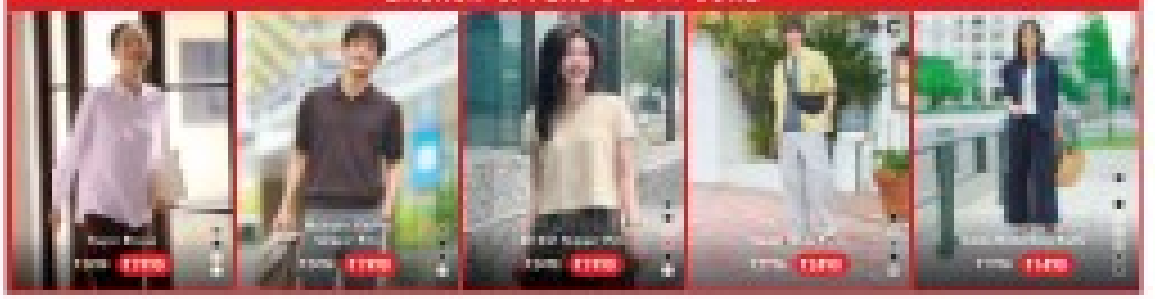
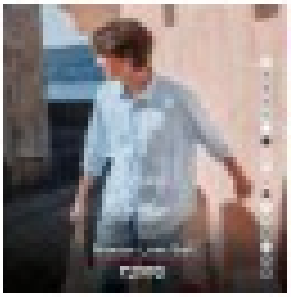
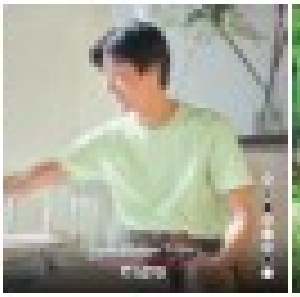


GLOBAL BESTSELLERS

Linen Shirts

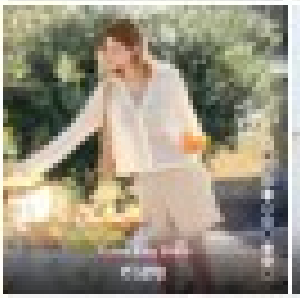


Cotton T-Shirts

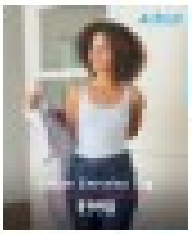


Jeans

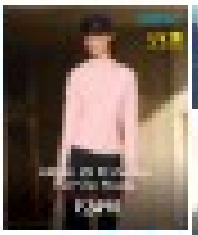
Shorts



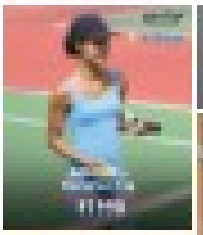
Mirror Sunglasses

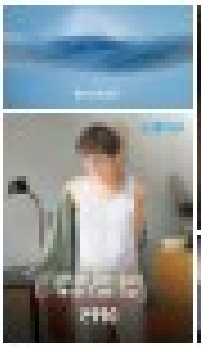


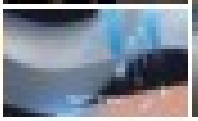
UV Protection

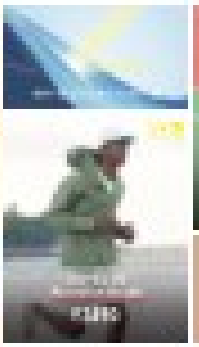


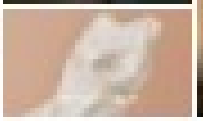
Shirts

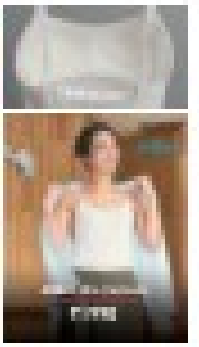












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IAS officer, now UP spl secy, summoned in 2019 assault case

Bareilly: The chief judicial magistrate's court in Bareilly has summoned IAS officer OP Verma, posted currently as special secretary in Lucknow, directing him to appear on July 2 in an alleged case of assault and false imprisonment of a subordinate govt staff, **reports Krishna Chaudhary.**

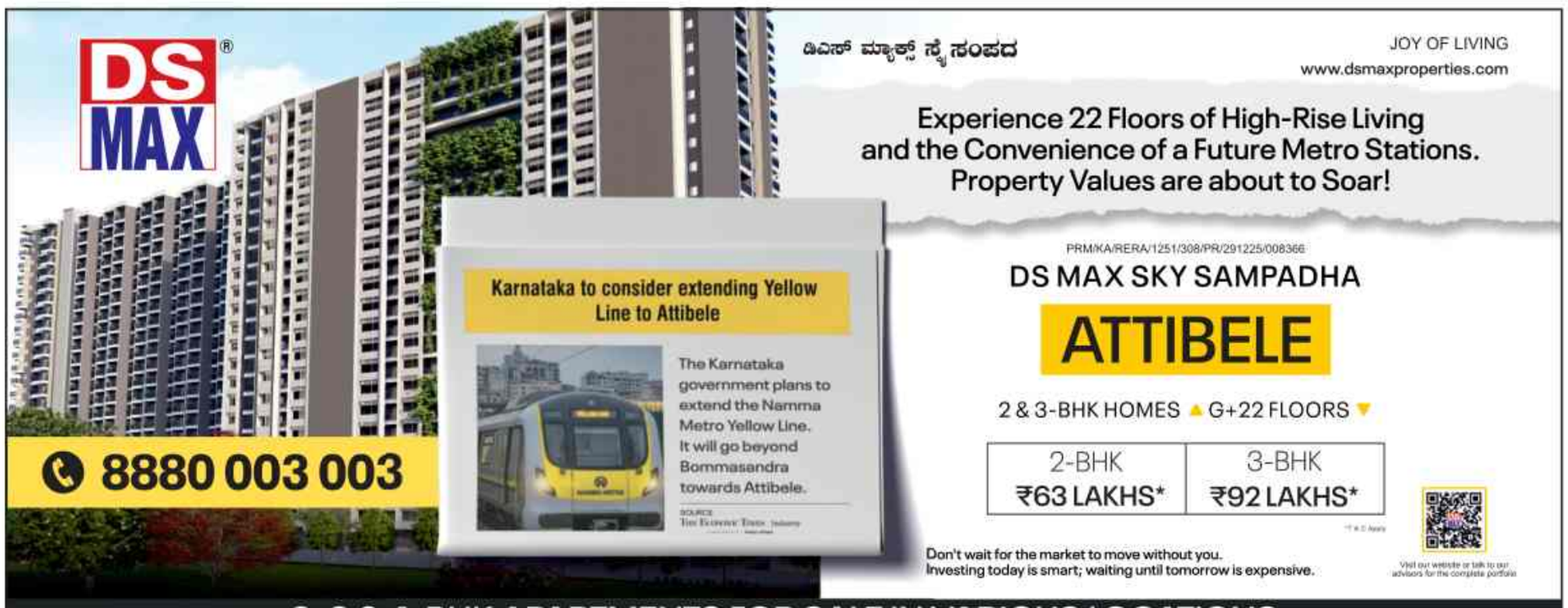
The complaint was filed by RK Saxena, a clerk who maintained legal records in 'chakbandi' (land consolidation) department. Saxena alleged that Verma — then posted as ADM (city), Bareilly — had summoned him to his chamber on Jan 24, 2019. "Chakbandi officials Ramakant Shukla, Prem Chandra and Sunil Kumar Sharma were present inside (the chamber). Verma picked up a stick and started beating me. Others joined in and rained kicks and blows on me," Saxena said in his complaint.

He added: "I was coerced into signing a statement prepared by Verma's 'peshkar' (usually a court reader or bench clerk). I was handed over to police for 'breach of peace' under CrPC 151 and incarcerated on Jan 25. I got bail on Feb 1, 2019. My complaints to SSP yielded no proper action, prompting me to approach court."

Deputy collector arrested for raping woman in Morena

MP police on Wednesday arrested a deputy collector posted in Morena district after a woman accused him of rape. He was suspended from service on Thursday. Police said the woman filed a complaint on June 3. She said she had befriended the accused on social media and he allegedly sexually exploited her between March 30, 2025, and June 3, 2026, at different locations under the false pretext of marriage. The accused, however, denied the allegations claiming he does not know the woman at all. TNN

After examining Saxena's affidavit, witness statements and police report, CJM Suresh Kumar Dube found prima facie grounds to proceed with the matter. The court rejected defence's contention that a prior govt sanction was required to prosecute a public servant, citing a Supreme Court precedent that the "protection available to public servants does not extend to abuse of official position".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Karnataka to consider extending Yellow Line to Attibele
The Karnataka government plans to extend the Namma Metro Yellow Line. It will go beyond Bommasandra towards Attibele.
SOURCE The Economic Times
PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/291225/008366
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2, 3 & 4-BHK APARTMENTS FOR SALE IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS

WHITEFIELD	SILKBOARD	AIRPORT ROAD	MYSORE ROAD	JIGANI	BANASHANKARI
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10 MINS. HOPEFARM METRO	NEAR SINGASANDRA METRO	NEAR PRESTIGE TECH IT PARK	NEAR CHALLAGHATTA METRO	5 MINS. APC CIRCLE	OPP. NPS SCHOOL
₹72.86 L - 1.32 Cr*	₹91.27 L - 1.47 Cr*	₹87.89 L - 1.21 Cr*	₹75.00 L - 1.06 Cr*	₹60.78 - 95.35 Lakhs*	₹1.45 - 2.17 Cr* (3 & 4-BHK)
8880 461 461	8880 013 310	8880 465 465	8880 461 461	8880 003 003	8880 461 461
G+14	G+14	G+14	G+14	G+14	G+3
YELAHANKA	**MAGADI ROAD**	**SARJAPURA**	**WHITEFIELD**	**HOSA ROAD**	**BANNERGHATTA RD.**
PRM/KA/RERA/1250/301/PR/251024/007175	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/310/PR/050526/008622	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/230126/008427	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/446/PR/160301/002464	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/160824/006972	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/160824/006973
5 MINS. RAJANUKUNTE	10 MINS. NICE ROAD TOLL	SARJAPUR - ATTIBELE ROAD	5 MINS. KADUGODI METRO	NEAR ELECTRONIC CITY	NEAR KOPPA GATE
₹56.25 - 97.21 Lakhs*	₹92.49 L - 1.23 Cr*	₹60.01 - 83.25 Lakhs*	₹78.40 - 86.88 Lakhs*	₹80.01 L - 1.44 Cr*	₹59.86 - 85.23 Lakhs*
8880 465 465	8880 465 465	8880 003 003	8880 461 461	8880 013 310	8880 013 310
G+14	G+14	G+4	G+4	G+4	G+14

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Course Content: Introduction to Solar Energy, Global market demand, Radiation, Optimization, Site assessment, Shadow Analysis, PV Module-Detail Engineering, Inverter, DC and AC Junction Box, Site Safety, Installation Procedures and Maintenance, How to setup a Business, Vendor Registration, Subsidiaries PM-Surya Ghar Scheme, Follow up Local State Govt. Bodies.
Date: 08, 09, 10, 11, 12 June 2026 | Time: 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Fees: ₹4,250/- | Duration: 5 Days
Contact: 8667359360, 9600776611
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Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
INSTITUTE FOR DESIGN OF ELECTRICAL MEASURING INSTRUMENTS, MUMBAI
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Government Certificate Course on
Artificial Intelligence for Legal Professionals
Course Duration- 6 days | Course Timing 7 pm to 8 pm | ऑनलाइन ONLINE | Course Dates: 15 to 20 June 2026
Email ID: training@idemi.org Website: www. Idemi.org Ph.:[022] 2405 0301/2/3/4
Contacts: Patent Analysis and Infringement Detection, Legal Research Contract Life cycle Management (CLM), Due Diligence, Fraud Detection & Forensic Analysis, Contract Drafting & Risk Assessment, E-Discovery Litigation Forecasting & Judicial Analytics, Intellectual Property (IP) Law Corporate Law, Bankruptcy Law Analytics, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), Court Case Management, Legal Research for International & Cross-border Law, Ethics and Future.
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Contact- 9403566219,8007765693,9869087617

कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम
(श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION
(Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)
चिकित्सा शिक्षा प्रकोष्ठ, क.रा.बी. निगम, मुख्यालय
Medical Education Cell, ESIC, Headquarters
पंचदीप भवन, सी.आई.जी. मार्ग, नई दिल्ली–110002
PANCHDEEP BHAWAN, C.I.G. MARG, NEW DELHI - 110 002
Email: dmc-dl@esic.gov.in, mecell.hq@esic.gov.in

ADMISSION NOTICE-2026-27

Admission of 'Ward of Insured Person (IP)' in UG (MBBS/BDS / BSc Nursing) Course in ESIC Education Institutions & some Government Medical College under "Seats Allocated for Ward of IP" for Academic Session 2026-27-Revised Schedule of Activities.

In continuation of this office Admission Notice dated. 30.04.2026 revised date of various activities are as under:-

Activation (opening) of link on ESIC Website for applying "Ward of IP Certificate"	30.04.2026
Last date for applying online application for "ward of IP Certificate"	21.06.2026 (at 23:59 hrs)
Last date to issue "ward of IP Certificate" by concerned ESIC Regional/Sub-regional office	24.06.2026

Sd/-
Dy. Medical Commissioner (ME)

JOINT ADMISSION COMMITTEE CHANDIGARH (JAC) - 2026
CHANDIGARH COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY, SECTOR-26, CHANDIGARH-160019
Admission Website: https://jacchd.admissions.nic.in/

ADMISSION NOTICE 2026

JOINT ADMISSION COMMITTEE (JAC)-2026 a body constituted by the Chandigarh Administration invites applications through JAC portal for admissions to various B.E./ B. Arch./ Integrated B.E.(Chemical)-MBA courses in the following institutions for the session 2026-27.

INSTITUTES UNDER JAC

1. **Chandigarh College of Engineering & Technology,** Sector-26, Chandigarh.
2. **Chandigarh College of Architecture,** Sector 12, Chandigarh.
3. **Dr. S. S. Bhatnagar University Institute of Chemical Engineering & Technology, Panjab University,** Chandigarh (formerly Department of Chemical Engineering & Technology).
4. **University Institute of Engineering & Technology,** Panjab University, Chandigarh.
5. **University Institute of Engineering & Technology,** Panjab University S.S Giri Regional Centre (PUSSGRC), Hoshiarpur.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- Applications are to be submitted online only at: https://jacchd.admissions.nic.in/
- Applicants must carefully go through the instructions and FAQ section on the JAC website before filling up the form.

ELIGIBILITY

- Candidates who have passed their Class 12th/ equivalent examination in 2024, 2025, or those who are appearing in Class 12th/ equivalent examination in 2026, are eligible to appear in JEE (Main) - 2026 Examination.
- For more details visit: https://jacchd.admissions.nic.in/eligibility-status/

HELPLINE

- Helpline No: 9872823250,9463739413, 8725014479, 9816290720.
- Helpline Email: helpdesk@ccet.ac.in

IMPORTANT DATES

Last date of registration	21st June, 2026 (Sunday).

For detailed schedule visit: https://jacchd.admissions.nic.in/schedule/

- The Terms and Conditions and dates may be changed as per the decision of competent authority. Candidates are advised to visit the website (https://jacchd.admissions.nic.in/) regularly.

Chairman, JAC-2026

GUJARAT INDUSTRIES POWER COMPANY LTD.
Tender for Upgrade and Revamp of RFID-Based Hardware and Software Systems for Surat Lignite Power Plant (SLPP)
Interested Vendors may submit their Bids on two-part basis through (n) Procure **(Tender id - 306150)**. It can also be viewed from Company's website **www.gipcl.com. Last date of submission of bid through (n) Procure is 25.06.2026 up to 18:00 hrs.** General Manager (Materials & Contracts)

RANI CHANNAMMA UNIVERSITY
ವಿದ್ಯಾಸಂಗಮ, ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ– 04, ಭೂತರಾಮನಹಟ್ಟಿ, ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ – 591156
(NAAC Accredited with B+Grade — 2021)
E-mail: registrar@rcub.ac.in aee@rcub.ac.in Phone No.: 0831-2565234/42

Ref No: RCU/Belagavi/RO/BS/2026-27/1210 Date:04.06.2026

PRESS NOTE
Corrigendum Notification

It is hereby informed that in the advertisement published on **04.06.2026**, the Indent No. **"RCUB/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT17"** shall be read as **"RCUB/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT17/CALL-2".**

Sd/-
Registrar

ARMY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, PUNE
M.TECH and PhD PROGRAMMES : AY 2026-27

Details	M. TECH	PhD
Courses	• Data Science • VLSI and Embedded Systems	Computer Engineering
Eligibility	• 50% in B.E/ B.Tech • Non-GATE candidates also eligible	• M.E/M.Tech/MS in the relevant branch and B.E/B.Tech. • SPPU PET(PhD Entrance Test) valid score **OR** Criteria laid down by UGC for PhD in Engineering
Date apply	Online by 31 Jul 2026	Apply After Notification by SPPU

Open for Wards of Serving and Retired Personnel of Army, Navy and Air Force, Serving Personnel on Study Leave and Ex-serviceman.

For more details, visit website : https://www.aitpune.com

APEDA
Ministry of Commerce & Industry Govt. of India

AGRICULTURAL AND PROCESSED FOODS PRODUCTS EXPORT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (APEDA)
(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India)
(3 Floor, NCUI Building, 3 Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg Opp. Asiad Village, New Delhi)

Recruitment of Director (BEDF) (On Contract)

PAD-2020-21-000049 Dated: 05 June, 2026

Basmati Export Development Foundation (BEDF), a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 requires an incumbent to function as Director (on contract basis) initially for a period of 2 years which may be extended by another year.

Details of requirements viz. age, qualification, experience, etc., are available on APEDA's website **https://apeda.gov.in/recruitment-appointment**

The application containing necessary particulars with supporting documents should be sent in electronic/Physical Form to Deputy General Manager (Personnel), APEDA, 3rd Floor, NCUI Building 3, Siri Institutional Area, Hauz Khas, New Delhi by **18 June, 2026.**

Any amendment in this regard will be hosted on APEDA's website.

MSME-TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
एमएसएमई प्रौद्योगिकी विकास केंद्र
Process & Product Development Centre
प्रक्रिया एवं उत्पाद विकास केंद्र
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Foundry Nagar, Agra - 282006 (U.P.)
Extension Centre New Delhi Organizes

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WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Students & Fresher's, Job Seekers, Entrepreneurs & Start-ups, Freelancers, Marketing Professionals, Business Owners, Content Creators, Working Professionals

Topics to be covered: Graphic Designing, Video Editing, Social Media Marketing, SEO Basics, Content Writing, AI Marketing Tools, Website Designing, Freelancing Skills, Portfolio Building.

Date/ दिनांक: 15th June to 16th July, 2026 | Fees/ शुल्क: Rs.3000/- only
Time/ समय: 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM | For Inquiry Call Between 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
For More Details, Course Content and Online Registration
Contact Number - 9810371728, 7983607199, 9677692445
E-mail- kathir.r@dcmsme.gov.in, msmeppdcdelhi@gmail.com
Certificate will be awarded

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NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OCEAN TECHNOLOGY
(पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
(Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India)
रा.स.प्रौ.सं कैंपस, वेलाचेरी –तांबरम मेन रोड, पल्लीकरणै, चेन्नई - 600100
NIOT campus, Velachery-Tambaram Main Road, Pallikaranai, Chennai - 600 100
Phone: 044-66783300 E-Mail: recruitment.niot@gov.in

ADVERTISEMENT NO. NIOT/E&P/02/2026 (PROJECT)

राष्ट्रीय समुद्र प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (रा.स.प्रौ.सं.), चेन्नई, पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त निकाय संस्थान है जो अपने विभिन्न परामर्श परियोजना के लिए निम्नलिखित पदों हेतु अनुबंध के आधार पर परियोजना कर्मियों को नियुक्त करने का प्रस्ताव करती है।**National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai, an institution under Earth System Sciences Council (ESSC), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India proposes to engage Project Personnel on contract basis for the following positions for its various Consultancy Projects:-**

क्र.सं Sl. No	पदनाम / Name of the Posts	पदों की संख्या और श्रेणी / No. of vacancies & Category
1	Project Engineer-I	10 (SC-1, ST-1, OBC-2, EWS-1, UR-5)
2	Project Engineering Associate	01 (UR)
3	Technical Associate-II	01 (UR)
4	Technical Associate-I	03 (UR)
5	Project Engineering Assistant	01 (UR)
6	Project Administration Assistant	03 (UR)
	Total	**19**

योग्य और इच्छुक अभ्यर्थी ऑनलाइन आवेदन कर सकते हैं। कृपया वेब–लिंक **https://www.niot.res.in/recruitment_details.php** पर उपलब्ध विस्तृत विज्ञापन, निर्देश और नियम व शर्तें देखें। / The eligible and interested candidates may apply online. Please see the detailed advertisement, instructions and terms and conditions available on the web-link **https://www.niot.res.in/recruitment_details.php**

ऑनलाइन आवेदन की अंतिम तिथि /
Last date for online applications: 25.06.2026

निदेशक / Director

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER / EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)
GUJARAT ENERGY

Gujarat Energy Limited (GEL) (Erstwhile Gujarat Gas Limited), desires to invite bids against Tender(s) under two bid system through e-tendering portal and profiles against (EOI); from eligible and interested parties for the following categories:

ID / Ref No.	Tender / EOI Description	Link for accessing the Tender / EOI Documents
GGL/EOI/2023-24/002	Contractor Empanelment for PE-PNG Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Works across GEL GAs(Phase-5)	• https://www.gujarat-energy.com/EOI/ • "Notice board" of geltender.nprocure.com
GGL/EOI/2024-25/002	Contractor Empanelment for Operations & Maintenance (O&M) works of Steel Pipeline Network & Associated Facilities across GEL GAs(Phase-2)	
GGL/EOI/2022-23/002	Contractor Empanelment for PE-PNG Project Works across GEL GAs (Phase-12)	
GGL/EOI/2024-25/013	Contractor Empanelment for Steel Pipeline Laying Projects across GEL GAs(Phase-6)	
GGL/EOI/2026-27/001	Contractor Development for PE-PNG Project Works	
GGL/EOI/2023-24/031	Forecourt Operations of CNG Station With / Without Retail Outlets (Phase 6)	
307083	Consultancy Services for Detail Engineering of Civil Works	• geltender.nprocure.com • https://www.gujarat-energy.com/ggl-current-tender/
307154	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Office (Online) UPS at different locations of GEL	
309648	Integrated Tender for PE Laying & PNG Connections (Domestic/Comm/Non-Comm/NDEC/ Industrial) for Vasai "Suraksha Smart City at Building 16 and Building 19" at Thane Rural & Palghar District GA	
309711	Engineering, Procurement, Construction and Commissioning (EPCC) Services for Gas Monetization at SE#3 QPS at Manipur, Ahmedabad, Gujarat	

Any revision, clarifications, corrigenda, addenda, notifications etc. related to this notice will be updated on the above referred websites only. Interested parties should regularly visit websites to keep themselves updated.

Bharat Petroleum
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)
Regd. Office: Bharat Bhavan, 4 & 6 Currimbhoy Road, Ballard Estate, Mumbai-400 001, Phone: 022-2271 3000/4000,
Email: info@bharatpetroleum.in, Website: www.bharatpetroleum.in
CIN - L23220MH1952GOI008931

SPECIAL WINDOW FOR TRANSFER AND DEMATERIALISATION OF PHYSICAL SECURITIES

In continuation to our intimation dated February 05, 2026 and April 07, 2026, notice is hereby given that pursuant to SEBI Circular HO/38/13/11(2)2026-MIRSD-POD/ I/3750/2026 dated January 30, 2026, the Company has opened another special window for transfer of physical securities which were sold / purchased prior to April 01, 2019. This special window shall remain open for a period of one year, from 05 February, 2026 upto February 04, 2027, to further facilitate the investors to get rightful access to their securities.

During this period, the securities that are lodged for transfer shall be credited to the transferee only in demat mode. Due process shall be followed for such transfer-cum-demat requests.

Lodgement of legally valid and complete documents for transfer of physical shares, where there is no dispute on ownership will be considered. Investors may submit their request till February 04, 2027 with our Registrar & Share Transfer Agent (RTA), at M/s. KFin Technologies Limited, Unit: Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Selenium Tower B, Plot 31 & 32, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Hyderabad - 500 032; Toll free:1800 309 4001; **Email: einward.ris@kfintech.com**

For Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.
Sd/-
(V. Kala)
Company Secretary

Date: 04.06.2026
Place: Mumbai

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- Consultant Medical Oncologist
- Consultant Cardiologist
- Consultant Non Invasive Cardiologist
- Consultant Endocrinologist
- Consultant Gastroenterologist
- Consultant ENT
- Consultant Microbiologist
- Consultant Pathologist
- Consultant Biochemistry
- Consultant Dermatologist
- Consultant / Jr Consultant OBGY
- Consultant Orthopaedics
- Senior / Junior Consultants (Gen. Medicine / Pulmonology / Respiratory Medicine)
- Senior Resident (Orthopaedics / Gen. Surgery)
- Clinical Associate / Jr Consultant ICU
- Sr / Jr Intensivist

DOCTORS
- Duty Medical Officer (ICU / Ward) MBBS (Fresher can also apply)
- Clinical Co-ordinator- (BAMS / BHMS)
- Physician Assistant (Bachelor's / Master's Degree in PA)
- Neuro Physiotherapist (MPT in Neuro Physiotherapy)

QUALITY DEPARTMENT
- Quality Manager- Laboratory (Bachelor / Master with experience of laboratory quality systems QMS / ISO / NABL)

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- ICU / OT / NICU / Cardiac OT / Endoscopy / Chemotherapy / Wards / Cath-Lab) (GNM / BSc / PB BSc Nursing preferably with 2-5 years experience)
- Nurse Educators (MSc Nursing preferably with 3+ years experience)
- Nursing Supervisor (GNM / BSc / PB BSc with 10+ years experience)
- Infection Control Nurse (ICN) (Preferably with 2-3 years experience)

TECHNICIANS & PARAMEDICAL
- Endoscopy Technician (Degree in Endoscopy Technology)
- OT and CSSD Technician (BSc / Diploma in OT & CSSD Technology)
- Cath-Lab Technician (BSc in Cath-Lab)
- Dialysis Technician (BSc in Dialysis Technology)
- Laboratory Technician (Pathology / Microbiology)
- Blood Storage Technician
- Trauma Care Technician / Ambulance Co-ordinator
- X-ray & USG Technician
- Fireman (Diploma / Degree in fire safety with 3-5 years of Experience)

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- Clinical Pharmacist (Pharm D)
- Pharmacist (B.Pharm, D.Pharm)
- Biomedical Engineer (B.E Biomedical Engineering)
- Electrical Engineer (B.E Electrical Engineering)
- Mechanical Engineer (B.E Mechanical Engineering)

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Contact Us
Candidates with relevant qualification & experience may e-mail their CV's at
hr@mgmhospitalvashi.net

Kritika Sharma, Meghna Dhulia, ASRP Mukesh & Ayantika Pal | TNN

Students who audited India's exam system

NEET to CBSE, in the summer of exam discontent, Gen Z investigators are asking the most difficult questions

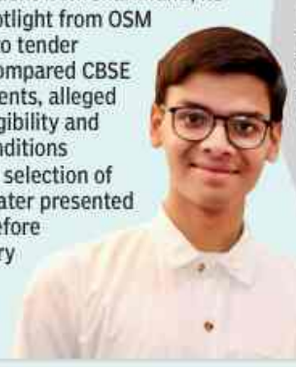
THE TEEN-ACE SLEUTHS

VEDANT SRIVASTAVA (17)

The face of the OSM controversy, is a Delhi-based Class 12 student whose Physics scanned answer sheet was wrongly uploaded under his roll number. CBSE later acknowledged the issue and sent the correct copy. Vedant, who was trolled and called 'Pakistani' for pointing out OSM flaws, has helped fellow students through re-evaluation

SARTHAK SIDDHANT (17)

A Class 12 student from Jharkhand, he moved the spotlight from OSM performance to tender scrutiny. He compared CBSE tender documents, alleged changes in eligibility and evaluation conditions that led to the selection of Coempt, and later presented his findings before a parliamentary standing committee



NISARGA ADHIKARY (19)

This Bengaluru-based software engineer and cybersecurity researcher has interests ranging from open source, digital investigations, coding to anime (he prefers not to use his image, but this anime for his online profile photo). His website adds that he also loves reading, music and photography. He says he discovered OSM portal vulnerabilities on Feb 25 and reported them to CERT-In before publishing the findings in May when the controversy blew up

RYLEN ANIL (16)

The Dubai resident is a movie buff who just can't get enough of solving puzzles. It was a conversation with Nisarga Adhikary, who cast the spotlight on tech loopholes in the CBSE test portal, that led him to look into the NTA site. He soon found vulnerabilities that could lead to unauthorised access to key data. He promptly flagged the issues to NTA and says flaws like these should be reported before they are misused

> The announcement that papers will be checked via OSM was made barely a week before the exam. That did not give time for teachers to get acquainted with the new system. There are some senior teachers in my school who can't even operate a mouse and keyboard. How would they switch to OSM checking without training?
>
> **Vedant Srivastava**

Speaking to **TOI**, Delhi-based Vedant Srivastava said he did not know he would become a whistleblower when he pointed out that his Class 12 physics paper evaluated by CBSE wasn't in fact his. His post, the first to draw attention to the CBSE fiasco, also drew trolls, who called the Class 12 Delhi-based student "Pakistani".

The Whistleblower

"I never expected that things would turn out the way they did... that some people will love me and others will troll me. I am simply a student who was trying to get his real answer sheet after I was sent a wrong one," Vedant told **TOI** this week.

After the Class 12 results were announced, he found he got 65 in physics, incongruous with the rest of his papers, where his scores were in the 90s or 80s. "I should have scored higher, it was a good exam. The next option for me was to apply for the scanned photocopy of my answer sheet, so I did," the 17-year-old said.

The answer sheet he received had his school number and roll number on the first page, but the handwriting on the paper was someone else's. He compared the paper with his English and computer science scripts and posted the discrepancy on X on May 23. "I was trolled endlessly by people online, some even called me anti-national," he said.

Vedant thought of giving up at one point but was encouraged by his parents to carry on the fight because it wasn't he who was wrong. "After my post went viral, many other students reached out to me. That is when I realised the extent of this problem. I helped roughly 30 more students get their issues sorted, connecting them to the right authorities and telling them the way to go about it," he said.

The second surprise for Vedant came when he eventually received his real answer script. His real score was 74, but he realised the paper was checked manually, not through OSM. "I was confused again because this showed there was an OSM for some scripts while others were checked manually," he said.

On his answer sheet were handwritten notes by the evaluator that he could not decipher. Vedant is applying for re-evaluation and wants to keep his focus on his engineering college admission, where "a few marks here and there can make a huge difference".

"It's clear that the board is not prepared for OSM checking on a mass scale. The announcement that papers will be checked via OSM was made barely a week before the exam. That did not give time for teachers to get acquainted with the new system. There are some senior teachers in my school who can't even operate a mouse and keyboard. How would they switch to OSM checking without training?" he asked.

The Tech Audit

While the student community voiced its anger online, a 19-year-old cybersecurity researcher in Bengaluru had known this was coming for months. Driven by curiosity after completing his Class 12 boards, Nisarga Adhikary had examined CBSE's portal this Feb and found holes that could allow unauthorised users to bypass authentication and alter marks.

"One could log in as an examiner using a master password exposed in the frontend, bypass OTP protection entirely because validation occurred only on the browser, and access internal pages without authentication," Nisarga told **TOI** over email.

After he found the vulnerabilities, he wrote to CERT-In. When the OSM fiasco blew up in May, Adhikary published his findings in a blog that was shared on X by Deedy Das, partner at a San Francisco-based VC firm, on May 26.

"The vulnerabilities also made it possible to reset an examiner's password without knowing the current one and, through systemic IDOR (a security vulnerability in which a web application exposes internal data directly to users) issues across the API, act as a user to edit marks, modify examiner details, and potentially tamper with the entire evaluation process," he wrote in the blog. So obvious, according to him, were the gaps that "it was one of the easiest hacks of my life".

In his blog, he added, "The whole app is walk-in. Even setting the login flow aside, the app's routing offered no protection... It's honestly funny that most of the vulnerabilities I reported went unpatched for a long time when I'd have fixed them in an hour or two if they were mine to fix. The sheer incompetence of our authorities baffles me."

As Nisarga's post gained traction, CBSE issued a public clarification, denying that its live evaluation system had been breached. The board maintained vulnerabilities identified by him were found in a testing environment that contained only dummy data and was not connected to the actual answer sheet evaluation process. But Nisarga continued to publish technical details and screenshots to support his claims.

CBSE blinked, eventually. On May 31, the board announced that it had taken steps to strengthen the security of its service provider's OnMark portal and digital security experts from govt and IITs had been deployed to secure the platform.

The Tender Audit

And yet, performance of OMS wouldn't be the most difficult question CBSE would have to field. A Class XII student in Jharkhand, riled by the mismatch in his papers like Vedant, decided to dig deeper. Sarthak Siddhant's said his investigation of publicly available CBSE tender documents related to the selection of its vendor found key eligibility criteria were altered before the OSM contract was awarded to Hyderabad-based Coempt EduTeck.

Sarthak (17) told **TOI** he doesn't think transfer of CBSE officials is "proper action". "One must take accountability and responsibility to explain what, where and why things went wrong." The boy from JVM Shyamali in Ranchi who loves coding and wants to study computer science said he was hopeful the ongoing probe will come up with a long-term remedy.

"My actions weren't based on personal vendetta towards CBSE but driven solely out of curiosity. It's a question of the future of lakhs of students. I won't be satisfied till the time I get answers to all the questions I have raised through my blog," he said.

What got him into digging was a chat with "longtime friend" Nisarg. "What began as an exercise just out of inquisitiveness turned out to be a marathon affair. Nisarg, myself and a few others went on to dig into scores of CBSE tenders," he said, adding he began his probe on May 22. It took him six days to publish his blog.

He compared multiple versions of the board's tender documents and claimed to have found at least 15 inconsistencies. He alleged clauses relating to poor performance, blacklisting, financial qualification requirements and project eligibility were either modified or removed in successive tender documents.

On the blog, Sarthak pulled no punches. "My thesis is that the rules, terms, conditions and clauses were rewritten to favour a specific vendor. The vendor happened to be Coempt EduTeck. This was done at the expense of national data security, and the future of students," he wrote.

According to him, CBSE issued three separate tenders for OSM. The first was removed from the Govt e-Marketplace portal, and the second did not result in a successful bidder after the technical evaluation stage. The third tender, in which TCS was also in the race, was awarded to EduTech firm Coempt EduTeck. This tender did not contain the clauses that could disqualify a service provider on grounds of unsatisfactory performance that the earlier ones did. "For the board, a track record of poor performance didn't matter anymore. If they had kept this clause, Coempt's catastrophic operational history under the name Globarena in Telangana would have been a massive legal hurdle for their qualification," he wrote.

Globarena was associated with processing the Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education results in 2019. After the results were declared, large-scale errors surfaced. A Telangana govt-appointed committee found Globarena did not meet baseline work-experience criteria. The errors were serious: 531 geography students' practical marks disappeared from memos and 496 students had 'AP' printed instead of marks. The committee attributed the errors to flaws in software design and implementation.

This week, Sarthak presented his findings to a parliamentary standing committee. The student, like the other teenagers who have called CBSE out, has maintained that digital evaluation itself is a positive reform, but a system of such scale should undergo extensive pilot testing before being rolled out nationwide. He has also called for greater transparency in govt procurement and easier public access to tender-related data and records.

CBSE has rejected allegations of wrongdoing in the tendering process and said the procurement and implementation of the OSM system followed due procedure.

Sarthak will, meanwhile, wait for re-evaluation of his paper as he is unsatisfied by his scores. OSM, he insisted, isn't the problem as new innovations are the way forward but "they need to be done in a proper manner and for public good".

Boy Who Woke Up NTA

Rylen Anil's excursion into the NTA portal followed a conversation with Nisarga, with whom the Class 12 student said he collaborated on finding the OSM vulnerabilities. "It was an effort to make our country a little safer," is how the 16-year-old puts it.

"While talking to Nisarga, I came to understand that many govt portals have similar weaknesses," Rylen told **TOI** over a call from Dubai, where he has grown up. His parents are from Kerala.

The teenager, a movie buff who is hooked to puzzles, said he is driven by the belief that such flaws should be reported before they are misused. On the NTA portal, Rylen went into the NEET section and came across an administrative dashboard as he looked around. "I realised something was wrong with the portal when I found a page labelled 'Super Admin Dashboard'. Once I was able to gain access to it, that was when I thought, 'Okay, this is something huge'."

"When Nisarga and I were investigating the CBSE portal, we found names, phone numbers and email addresses of candidates who had paid for re-evaluation. In NTA, it was similar," he said. Without revealing technical details, Rylen said the problem stemmed from weak credentials. "Through that vulnerability, I was able to gain access. I believe I had access to information relating to around 7,000 observers, including their email addresses, phone numbers and full names. With those, one could generate appointment letters and view observer mappings through the portal. One could easily generate official documents as well. If this had been discovered by a malicious actor, it could have caused a lot of stress and confusion among NEET students. I don't believe it would have allowed anyone to change final results, but it definitely had the potential to fuel hysteria," he said.

> Indian organisations have a security through obscurity problem. Many pages are hidden, but if someone can find them, they can exploit them. Hiding pages is useful, but proper security measures also need to be put in place. More effort had gone into hiding the portal than actually securing it
>
> **Rylen Anil**

Rylen reported the breaches to NTA on May 31. "I also posted on X and went to sleep. When I woke up next morning, I saw my post had gone viral. NTA officials had already reached out to me through email. They responded promptly, and I must say I'm very appreciative of them because they were able to resolve the issue quickly."

Indian organisations, according to him, have a "security through obscurity" problem, relying on keeping pages hidden to keep them secure. "Many pages are hidden, but if someone can find them, they can exploit them. The 'Super Admin' portal was not publicly available. I had to actively search for it. Hiding pages is useful, but proper security measures also need to be put in place. More effort had gone into hiding the portal than actually securing it."

HASSAN MANGALORE RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
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E-mail: ceohmrdc@gmail.com CIN: U45203KA2003SGC032183
No: HMRDC/Accounts/14/Insurance Policy/2026-27 Date: 05.06.2026
E-TENDER NOTICE
Name of Work: HMRDC invites sealed tenders from reputed and experienced Insurance Companies for issuing the following Insurance policies for the year 2026-27.
1. Standard Fire and Special Perils Policy. 2. Fire and Loss of Profit (FLOP). 3. Machinery Break-down Policy. 4. Public Liability Policy.
The last date for receipt of the Tender is **25.06.2026 at 3.30 pm.**
For details, visit: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and **www.hmrdc.com**
DIPR/CP/SPAN/988/2026-27 Sd/- CFO/HMRDC

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DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
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ISRO Headquarters, Antariksh Bhavan, New BEL Road, Bengaluru-560 094.
Ph: 080-22172041/2476/5641/5660, e-mail: ts.cmghg@isro.gov.in
BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, online item-rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for the following work:	
Title of Work	**Construction of Security and Front Office at ISRO HQ, Antariksh Bhavan, Bengaluru - Civil, PH, Electrical and AC Works.**
e-Tender Notice No.	**CMG/ISRO-HQ/C/C/06/P/AB/ 2026-27 dated 03.06.2026**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 267.96 Lakhs**
Period of Completion in months	**Five (05) Months**
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	From **18:10 hrs on 03.06.2026** To: **23:59 hrs on 15.06.2026**
Last date & time for receipt of tenders	**up to 15:30 hrs on 19.06.2026**
Due date & time of opening of tenders (Techno-Commercial Bid)	**16:30 hrs on 19.06.2026**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 5,35,920/-(Valid for 180 days)**

For eligibility criteria and other details, Interested tenderers may please refer to the detailed bilingual (Hindi/ English) Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) on website **https://isro.gov.in/tenders.html** and tender free view at **https://tenderwizard.com/ISRO**. Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) and tender documents may be downloaded from e-tendering website **https://tenderwizard.com/ISRO**
Sd/- Head CMD, ISRO HQ

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Tel No.:+91 1412222469 Fax No.:+91 1412222403
Website: www.lsg.urban.rajasthan.gov.in
No: F 55 () PA/CE(SBM)/SBM-2/DLB/ VTS/2026/9751 Date: 26/05/2026
CORRIGENDUM
Online Technical and Financial Bids in Single Stage two envelops are invited on behalf of Governor of Rajasthan by State Mission Director. SBM(U)2.0. DLB. vide NIB no. F 55 () PA/CE(SBM)/SBM- 2/DLB/VTS/2026/8216 dated 01.05.2026 for the works Selection of System Integrator for Design. Supply. Implementation and Operations & Maintenance of QR Based Vehicle Tracking System (VTS) for Solid Waste Management across Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in Rajasthan under Swacch Bharat Mission (Urban). The bidding schedule is being revised as follows:

Sl No.	Event	Earlier	Revised
1	Bid Document submission end Date & Time	01.05.2026 at 15:00 Hrs	11.06.2026 at 15:00 Hrs
2	Submission of DD/BG etc. for bid security	01.05.2026 at 15:00 Hrs physically at DLB office separately for each work package.	11.06.2026 at 15:00 Hrs physically at DLB office separately for each work package.
3	Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	01.05.2026 at 16:00 Hrs	11.06.2026 at 16:00 Hrs

All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.
DIPR/C/9692/2026 State Mission Director, SBM (U)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ (ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಧಾರವಾಡ)
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು & ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ
ನಂ:ಕಾ.ನಿ.ಇಂ/ಗ್ರಾಕುನೀ&ನೈವಿ/ಧಾ/ಕಿಇಂ-1/ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ/2026-27/296 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 04.06.2026
work ಟೆಂಡರನ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ವಿಷಯ: ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರನ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಕುರಿತು
ಮೇಲ್ಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ವಿಷಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ, ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಿತ ಪತ್ರದಡಿ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿದೆ.
ಧಾರವಾಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ : ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ : Works Indent No: RWSSD/2026-27/ WS/WORK_INDENT10034/Call-2
ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ: 165.51 ಲಕ್ಷ, ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ: 165.51 ಲಕ್ಷ
ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿದೆ. **(Calander of Events):**
(1) ಖಾಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರ್ಮಗಾಗಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಶೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ಬಿಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟನಲ್ಲಿ ಭರ್ತಿಮಾಡಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **04.06.2026** ರಿಂದ **11.06.2026** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 04.00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ (2) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **12.06.2026** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 04.30 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ (3) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಗೊಂಡ ನಂತರ.
ಸದರೀ ಮೇಲೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಅಂತಿಮ ಹೆಸರು, ಟೆಂಡರಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ, ಇ.ಎಮ್.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ಮುಂತಾದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ kppp.karnataka.gov.inನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡದೆ, ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಅಥವಾ ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.
ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ,
ವಾಸಾಸಂ೨/ಧಾ/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/254/2026-27 ಧಾರವಾಡ.

GENERAL INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA
(A Government of India Company)
"Suraksha", 170, J. Tata Road, Churchgate, Mumbai-400020
TENDER
GIC Re intends to empanel brokers for Equity Trading.
The notice inviting the Request for Proposal for this purpose is posted at GIC's website **https://www.gicre.in under the tab 'Tenders & Notices' → 'Investment Department'**
Last date for submission: 7th July 2026 ; till 5.00 PM.

ಕಾವೇರಿ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಒಂದು ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,ನಂ.7, ಹೇಮಾವತಿ ಎಡದಂಡೆ ನಾಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗ,ಕಾವೇರಿ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ, (ನಿ), ನಾಗಮಂಗಲ. ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08234-200058
ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08234-286019
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: eeno7nag@gmail.com
ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:01/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ:03.06.2026
(ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ QCBS ನ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ದ್ವಿ ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ) – (ಕನ್ಸಲ್ಟನ್ಸಿ ಸರ್ವಿಸ್ ಅನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ)
ರೀ-ಮಾಡಲಿಂಗ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಡಿ.ಪಿ.ಆರ್ ತಯಾರಿಸಲು QCBS ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್ ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ) ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಠೇವಣಿಯನ್ನು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:05.06.2026 ರಿಂದ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23.06.2026 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. Pre bid Meeting ದಿನಾಂಕ : 17.06.2026 ರಂದು ಮುಖ್ಯ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಗೊರೂರು, ಹಾಸನ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 12.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25.06.2026 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಘಂಟೆಗಳು. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಹತೆ ಪಡೆದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02.07.2026 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.114.01 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.1,72,000.00 ಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ವಿವರ, ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಬೆಲೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾಲಮಿತಿ ಮುಂತಾದ ಇತರೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸದರಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳು https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುತ್ತದೆ.
ಸಹಿ/-ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ನಂ.7, ಹೇಮಾವತಿ ಎಡದಂಡೆ ನಾಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ನಾಗಮಂಗಲ
ವಾಸಾಸಂ೨/ಹಿಸಂ-ಮಂ/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/172/2026-27

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS:TIRUPATI
S.V.GOSAMRAKSHANA SHALA, TIRUPATI
e -TENDER NOTICE
NIT No. TTD/30/45/2025-SV Goshala, Dated: 26.05.2026
e-Tender is invited for "Manufacturing / Packaging / Supply of Agarabathi (Incense sticks) for TTD Agarabathi Unit" for a period of (03) three years as per T&C. Tender documents can be downloaded by login to https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in. Download Start date 06.06.2026 from 05.00 PM and last date for submission of tender is 06.07.2026 up to 05.10 PM. For further details contact Mobile No: 9281413626.
TTD-40021(31)/1/2026 - PRO SEC (Adv. No 66). Date - 04.06.2026 Executive Officer

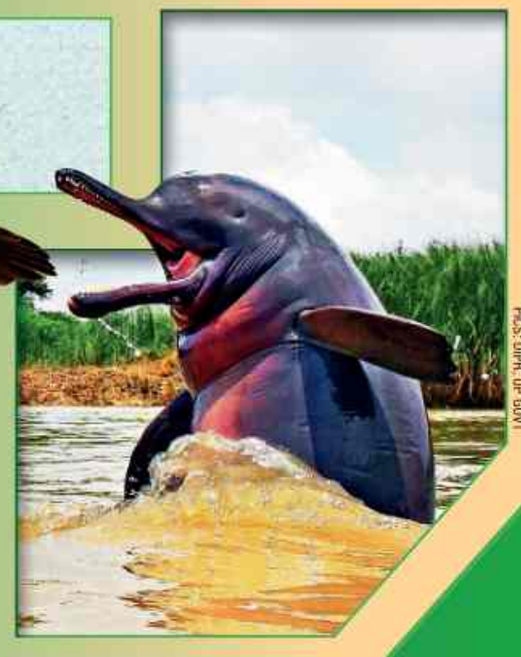
पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन ऑफ उत्तराखण्ड लि०
(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम)
विद्युत भवन, नजदीक आई०एस०बी०टी० क्रासिंग, सहारनपुर रोड माजरा, देहरादून-248002
कारपोरेट आई०डी० U40101UR2004SGC028675,
ए०डी०बी० वित्त पोषित परियोजना हेतु गठित ए०डी०बी०– प्रोग्राम मैनेजमेन्ट यूनिट (ए०डी०बी० पी०एम०यू०) में प्रतिनियुक्ति / अनुबन्ध के आधार पर नियोजित किये जाने के सम्बन्ध में सूचना
पावर ट्रान्समिशन कारपोरेशन ऑफ उत्तराखण्ड लि० एवं उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लि० में संचालित ए०डी०बी० वित्त पोषित परियोजना Uttarakhand Climate Resilience Power System Development Project (पूर्व नाम Uttarakhand Transmission Strengthening and Distribution Improvement Programme) के अन्तर्गत स्वीकृत कार्यों में सहयोग एवं अनुश्रवण हेतु ए०डी०बी०–प्रोग्राम मैनेजमेन्ट यूनिट (ए०डी०बी० पी०एम०यू०) में निम्नलिखित अस्थायी पदों पर प्रतिनियुक्ति / अनुबन्ध के आधार 01 वर्ष अथवा परियोजना समाप्त होने की अवधि (अधिकतम 23 नवम्बर, 2026 तक), जो भी पहले हो, तक रखे जाने हेतु अर्ह अभ्यर्थियों से आवेदन पत्र आमन्त्रित किये जाते हैं:–

क्रम सं०	पदनाम	पदों की संख्या
प्रतिनियुक्ति के आधार पर भरे जाने वाले पद		
1	उप परियोजना निदेशक	01
2	परियोजना प्रबन्धक (वितरण / पारेषण)	02
3	प्रबन्धक (वित्त)	01
प्रतिनियुक्ति / अनुबन्ध के आधार पर भरे जाने वाले पद		
1	पर्यावरण एवं वन विशेषज्ञ	01
2	सामाजिक प्रभाव एवं प्रबंधन विशेषज्ञ	01
3	परियोजना अनुश्रवण विशेषज्ञ	01
केवल विभागीय प्रतिनियुक्ति के माध्यम से भरे जाने वाले पद (PTCUL/UPCL/UJVNL/UREDA से)		
1	प्रबन्धक (प्रशासन)	01
2	सहायक अभियन्ता (भुगतान एवं सु०प्रौ०)	01
3	अवर अभियन्ता (भुगतान एवं सु०प्रौ०)	01
4	लेखाकार	01

प्रतिनियुक्ति / अनुबन्ध की अवधि को आवश्यकतानुसार घटाया अथवा बढ़ाया जा सकता है। आवेदनकर्ता की योग्यता एवं अनुभव, वेतन / मानदेय व अन्य शर्तें तथा विस्तृत विवरण पिटकुल की वेबसाइट **www.ptcul.org** पर उपलब्ध है। चयन लिखित परीक्षा / साक्षात्कार के माध्यम से किया जायेगा।
आवेदन पत्र भरकर वांछित शैक्षिक / तकनीकी योग्यता / अनुभव प्रमाण-पत्रों / प्रपत्रों स्वहस्ताक्षरित सहित (यदि आवेदक सरकारी / अर्द्धसरकारी सेवक है, तो अनापत्ति प्रमाण-पत्र, स्थायीकरण, विगत 05 वर्षों की वार्षिक गोपनीय आख्यों एवं विभागीय / न्यायिक / प्रशासनिक / अनुशासनात्मक जाँच लम्बित न होने का प्रमाण-पत्र अनिवार्य है) के के साथ निम्नलिखित पते पर दिनांक **24.06.2026** की सायं 05:00 बजे तक पंजीकृत डाक / स्पीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से प्राप्त होना अनिवार्य है। उक्त तिथि के बाद प्राप्त आवेदन पत्रों पर कोई विचार नहीं किया जायेगा
महाप्रबन्धक (मानव संसाधन),
पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन ऑफ उत्तराखण्ड लिमिटेड,
विद्युत भवन, नजदीक आई०एस०बी०टी० क्रासिंग,
सहारनपुर रोड, माजरा, देहरादून – 248002, उत्तराखण्ड
941/HQPU/PTCUL Dated 03.06.2026
"राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचायें"

MEGA PLANTATION CAMPAIGN-2026

UTTAR PRADESH'S DEFINING TRANSFORMATION OVER



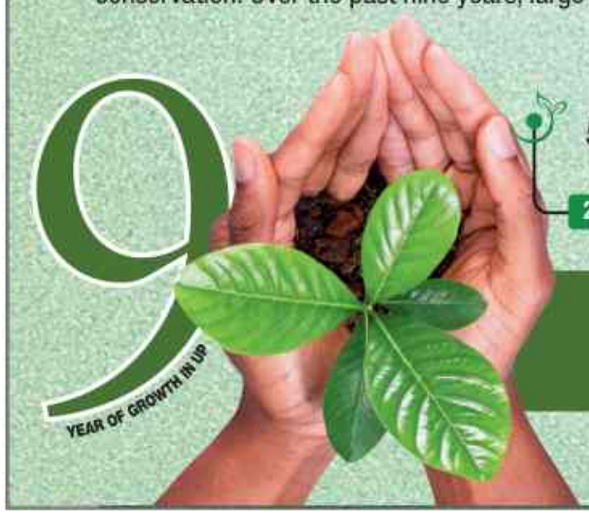
PICS: DIPR, UP GOVT

9 YEARS

GREEN INITIATIVES STRENGTHENING BIODIVERSITY

- More than 242 crore saplings have been planted over the past nine years, expanding green cover by nearly 3.38 lakh acres across the state.
- Tiger numbers increased from 173 in 2018 to 205 in 2022 through focused conservation and habitat protection measures.
- A target has been set to plant 35 crore saplings during the 2026 monsoon season to further strengthen ecological sustainability.
- The Ganga Dolphin was declared the state aquatic animal, reinforcing efforts to conserve aquatic ecosystems.
- Amrit Vans have been established in every district to create dedicated green spaces and promote biodiversity.
- The Sarus crane population has risen to 20,281, reflecting sustained wetland and habitat conservation initiatives.
- The introduction of the Mukhya Mantri Krishak Vriksh Dhan Yojana has encouraged tree plantation along private farmland boundaries.
- Uttar Pradesh has secured international recognition for 12 Ramsar sites, placing it among the leading states in wetland conservation.
- Plantation drives have been transformed into a people's movement through Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam, connecting numerous families with environmental conservation.
- Protected habitats have expanded with four tiger reserves, including the establishment of the Ranipur Tiger Reserve in Chitrakoot.

As Uttar Pradesh marks World Environment Day, the state's environmental initiatives reflect a sustained commitment to ecological conservation. Over the past nine years, large-scale plantation drives have expanded green cover through various campaigns. These efforts have been complemented by stronger wildlife conservation measures, resulting in increased populations of tigers, elephants and Sarus cranes. The government has expanded protected areas and undertaken targeted rescue operations to reduce human-wildlife conflict. Progress is also evident in the recognition of wetlands, the establishment of conservation breeding centres and the rejuvenation of major rivers. Alongside these efforts, renewable energy initiatives and clean-air measures are contributing to a greener and more sustainable future for Uttar Pradesh.



2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
5.72 Crore	11.77 Crore	22.60 Crore	25.87 Crore	30.53 Crore	35.49 Crore	36.16 Crore	36.81 Crore	37.21 Crore

52 crore+ saplings being prepared in 1,900 nurseries (2026)

READER ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

CONTRAPUNTO

Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former

– ALBERT EINSTEIN

Agnipariksha

India miserably fails the fire safety test. Tragedies have piled up over the years. Enforcement hasn't moved

On Wednesday, all eyes were on a Delhi hotel fire that left 21 dead, 18 of them foreigners. A day later, the ICU of a hospital in Muzaffarpur, Bihar was ablaze. By afternoon, five deaths had been confirmed. We are pained, but not shocked, because, over the years, we have witnessed too many of these horrors. Fire and related casualties have simply become part of our everyday lives. Ten years ago, one of every five fire-related deaths, globally, used to happen in India. There's no reason to hope things are better now. In fact, before Wednesday's hotel tragedy, fires in Delhi had already claimed 45 lives this year – 15 in March, 13 in May. If that's the state of the capital, how bad might things be elsewhere?

This is not a rhetorical question. In 2023, WHO said more than 1mn Indians are "moderately or severely" burnt each year. And the reason isn't geography. We aren't so fire-prone because of some natural disadvantage. Our complete disregard for rules and safety is a predisposing factor. Otherwise, the Dabwali fire of 1995 should have been the mother of all lessons. It was a school's prize distribution function. The enclosure was made of cloth. It was packed way beyond capacity, and *one of its two exits was closed for VIPs*. Result: 446 people died when the enclosure caught fire.

That should have rewritten every safety manual in the country. But no, Delhi's Flourish Stay B&B, the one that was gutted on Wednesday, had only one exit. In 2019's Anaj Mandi fire, also in Delhi, 45 workers died because one of the two staircases in the building was blocked with combustible goods. That same year, 22 students died in Surat's Takshashila Arcade, because their makeshift fourth-floor coaching centre was a tinderbox, with plastic walls and ceiling, and no escape route. Be it Uphaar Cinema, 1997, or Kolkata's AMRI Hospital, 2011, fires turned fatal whenever they were nursed by stupidity and greed.

How is it possible that a B&B with permission for six rooms, operates 25? If the authorities, whose job is to make safety checks, have eyes only for cheques, fires in factories, hotels, hospitals, markets, won't stop. And when they occur, our deficient firefighting infra – 97.5% shortage of fire stations, and 96.3% of personnel, according to NDMA – won't help. We know we'll be pained again, but not shocked.

Overqualified & Out

There's no such thing as being too educated for a job, if you want/need that job & do it competently

India produces ambition industrially and then fulfils it homeopathically, in doses much smaller than expected. 10mn new graduates are milled every year, graduates form two-thirds of the unemployed 20- to 29-year-olds. A particular cruelty is that after someone's stacked up the degrees, because they believed these would translate into a nice job, they are told, shoo, go away, you're overqualified. Just this week, the Supreme Court – wrongly, in our view – set aside the appointment of a temporary bank attendant, not because he's incompetent, but because he's a graduate. And the job was earmarked for those schooled up to Class 10.

When a person, fully aware of what the role entails, under no illusion about its salary or station, still wants it, why penalise them for being too educated? The way the Indian economy, indeed the world economy, is going, the predictable days of x CV fitting into y job opening, are behind us. When only 10% of the 1.5mn engineers expected to graduate in a year are expected to get a job, we are only making the situation worse by fixating on the 'right' vs 'wrong' job for them. Yes, some engineers become cab drivers. Some literature docs from JNU are writing SEO content (500 words on the best mattresses under ₹10,000), their Keats and Kafka judging them from the shelf. Some govt ad for a peon's job, requiring only Class V, sees each vacancy draw as many as 1400 applications from grads+postgrads+PhDs alone.

The promise that education will lead to good income and status is broken often. But we can make things better. Put 'overqualified' in the bin. Whatever else is changing, people are still chasing the feeling that their life amounts to something. Let's not tell them that this can only be through a narrow set of approved occupations. Maybe there is more meaningful work to be found around us, when we show the willingness to call it that.

The descent of man

More and more inventions could put Darwin's evolution in reverse gear

Jug Suraiya

Vacationing in Turin, Italy, Bunny and I are confronted with a problem. We need to do laundry in the washing machine in our rented apartment, but the make is unfamiliar to us. The instructions for its use are given on the machine, but they are in Italian, not English.

Bunny has a grasp of basic Italian, but the technical instructions on the machine are incomprehensible to her. Then an idea strikes her. Her phone has an app which, when pointed at printed words in whatever language, can translate them into any other language, possibly not excluding Hindi, Swahili, or Serbo-Croatian.

Bunny uses the app and – Bingo! – out comes the text in Standard English, punctuation and all.

As we put our laundry into the machine, we recite the reverent refrain that has become the leitmotif of human civilisation: What would we do without the marvels of tech?

We repeat this mantra when we use phones to translate language, or employ GPS to help us find where we need to go, or get Gemini to give us the lowdown on what Godel's Incompleteness Theorems are, and why the chap slacked on the job and didn't complete the darn things.

jugular*vein*

What would we do without modern tech? Our ancient forebears repeated those words when people got fed up with having to use their fingers to count 2+2=4 and invented the abacus. Now, instead of fingers you moved two beads from left to right, then moved two more beads, and – Eureka! – you'd get four. No more fiddling with fingers.

And before you could say 'Apple', we had laptops, smartphones, and AI, thanks to which we no longer have to rely on humans to solve problems but let digital tech do it for us.

Darwinian evolution is based on the human problem-solving capacity to reach ever higher stages of development. By abdicating our inventiveness in problem-solving, will we put Darwin into reverse gear? Instead of the Ascent of Man, have we initiated the Descent of Man? Will Homo sapiens, Wise Man, literally ape his pre-human ancestors and make a Monkey of himself?

Mamata's Crisis Is Mamata

Her post-defeat loss of control over her party is thanks to a system she created when in power. It worked on fear & greed. Such systems don't survive poll setbacks

Sayantan Ghosh

Around 35 days ago, Mamata Banerjee walked 14km through the streets of Kolkata in her final election march for Bhabanipur constituency. Security officials scrambled to manage the crowd of ministers, MLAs, MPs, candidates, and film industry figures jostling for proximity to her. That energy felt familiar, an echo of the street fighter who had built Trinamool Congress from a fragile splinter of Congress into a force that ended three decades of Left Front rule in 2011.

Yet on June 2, when she staged a dharna at the Y Channel – the very site of her historic 2006 hunger strike against the Singur land acquisition and near the Brigade Parade Ground where she rang the "Mrityu Ghanta" against the Left in 1992 – the response was starkly different.

Her aides reached out to nearly 80 MLAs, around 40 MPs, and prominent cultural figures. Most calls went unanswered. Only a handful of old-guard MLAs, long sidelined from her grand rallies, stood by her.

This moment captured Mamata at one of the most precarious junctures of her political life. Mere kilometres away, Nabanna, the state secretariat she had commanded for 15 years, now houses a BJP govt led by Suvendu Adhikari, a man whose rise she once nurtured.

In the assembly, where her party once dominated, 58 of her 80 MLAs have defied her whip. They submitted signed documents to the Speaker supporting Ritabrata Banerjee, a former CPM turncoat, as Leader of Opposition, bypassing her choice of Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay. The Speaker approved it, formalising a split in the legislature party. The rebels have invited her to serve as chief adviser while sidelining her nephew Abhishek Banerjee.

This is not merely rebellion; it is the visible fracture of a party Mamata built on personal loyalty and anti-Left mobilisation. The crisis is of her own making, though interpretations casting her purely as victim abound.

The straight truth lies in choices she ignored for years. Seeds were sown early. In 2011, she inducted Abhishek into the party and created Yuva Trinamool as a parallel to the existing student wing led by Suvendu Adhikari. By 2014, after Abhishek became MP from Diamond Harbour, she merged the wings under him. This shift unsettled veterans who had walked with her from her Youth Congress days.

Mukul Roy, once her most trusted organiser, quit in 2017 and joined BJP, citing Abhishek's unchecked ascent as corrosive to internal morale. Adhikari followed ahead of the 2021 elections, voicing similar grievances over family dominance.

Today's legislative rebels echo the same refrain: their defiance targets Abhishek's control more than Mamata herself. The pattern is unmistakable. Warnings about centralising power around one family were dismissed, allowing resentment to fester into open revolt.

Mamata mastered grassroots politics like few others. She connected directly with workers at her Kalighat residence, fostering a sense of accessibility that powered her 2011 victory. Yet over time, Trinamool corporatised. Influence of professional consultancies like IPAC created layers of gatekeepers.

Veterans, who once walked into her home, now navigated Abhishek's Camac Street office, and external functionaries, for appointments. This wall distanced her from the very people who had sustained her through Singur, Nandigram and the long anti-Left struggle.

Frustration built quietly. Old associates felt sidelined as ticket distribution and organisational decisions concentrated in fewer hands. The party lost its organic link to the ground. Where once purpose – defeating Left, checking BJP – animated cadres, power became the glue. Welfare schemes provided a safety net for voters, but they masked deeper rot: local-level strongmen who used police and administration to intimidate opponents and extract benefits.

Anti-incumbency simmered beneath the surface of apparent dominance. When BJP offered a credible alternative in 2026, voters shifted in a silent wave, reducing TMC to 80 seats.

Mamata's style evolved from mass mobilisation to administrative control. Opposition voices faced surveillance and pressure. This created an atmosphere where loyalty was enforced through fear rather than conviction. The underbelly of local corruption and strong-arm tactics alienated ordinary people, especially in rural pockets where promises of change resonated.

The 2026 verdict was less a rejection of Mamata the individual than of a system that had drifted from its founding spirit.

Unlike Left's ideology or BJP's organisational cadre, Trinamool was born of Congress inheritance and anti-Left mobilisation. From 2011 to 2016, defeating Left provided clear purpose. After that, checking BJP's rise offered temporary glue. Yet once entrenched in power, that adversarial edge dulled.

Governance relied on dominance rather than fresh ideas or broad coalitions. Schemes helped survival, but they could not substitute for vision when local governance failed.

Power does not breed loyalty; it attracts beneficiaries. When BJP swept to 208 seats and installed Suvendu Adhikari as chief minister, the fragility became evident. Ministers and MLAs whose careers Mamata had shaped now serve under her former protégé. The irony is sharp: the woman who rang the death knell for Left, now confronts a diminished party questioning its own identity.

The split benefits BJP immediately. It creates an opposition minus Mamata's mobilisational magic, precisely what party in govt welcomes. Rebels gain protection from ground-level anger directed at Trinamool strongmen.

Mamata retains symbolic legacy and fighting spirit, but the party symbol, organisational machinery, and cadre cohesion face severe strain. Retaining control without dramatic reinvention will prove arduous.

She will fight, as street fighters do. Yet this moment marks a point of difficult return. The real Trinamool – the one forged in hunger strikes and people's marches – lies buried under layers of centralisation and compromise. Rediscovering it demands reconnecting with the grassroots ethos she once embodied, beyond family or consultants.

Whether she can achieve that before the window closes remains the defining question of her political twilight. The rebellion is not obituary but a harsh mirror. In searching for the real TMC, Mamata must first confront how far her creation has strayed from its origins.

The writer teaches communication at St Xavier's College, Kolkata

The Indianness We Should Show Others

When a few Indians abroad appear to be publicly intrusive, the world's highest achieving immigrant community can become a target. Celebrating your culture is great. Inflicting it, is not

Anjana Menon

Indians are showing up in the strangest of places in the strangest of ways. A clip circulating on social media showed some Indian travellers dancing around their hand luggage on the tarmac in Vietnam. Days later, another clip emerged of three individuals, dressed as Indian divinities, parading through the aisles of an Ontario grocery store, run by Indians.

The thing is, there was never a worse time for coming across, to many people abroad, as publicly intrusive Indians. Everywhere around the globe, local populations are protesting the influx of immigrants, who they claim are taking away their jobs and destroying their culture.

Tens of thousands marched in the streets of London in May to Unite The Kingdom, protesting immigration. While it's true that Britain has struggled to control the number of immigrants, and asylum seekers, the protest itself is a likely symptom of a greater problem – the loss of prosperity, and the resultant fall in the standard of public services, where citizens get much less of what they expect from govt. Economies are growing more slowly and unevenly. Rising income inequality, and high cost of living are making it harder for working classes to thrive.

It's easy to see who will be collateral damage in this disaffection with the state. According to Group Threat Theory, when economic conditions become difficult, the majority starts to see the minority not as competent, but competitive. Anti-immigrant sentiment rises, and a performative Indian abroad becomes a misplaced symbol, which travels with high velocity on social media. And that, further distorts the scale of the problem.

This is not to say that Indians should be shy of claiming their culture, and apologise for shining as an immigrant. After all, Indians everywhere have been praised for being hard working, diligent and honest. They are rarely troublemakers. In fact, they are the most prosperous non-white community in America, and fill the ranks of senior executives, scientists, doctors, top academics, and researchers. In short, the world's biggest economy routinely suctions out our brightest. We are wanted.

Yet when a handful of Indians get showcased for seemingly being uncivil, Indians everywhere risk being weaponised.

Indians must understand cultural pride carries a certain responsibility – we are who we are seen to be.

Image is for representational purposes

It means being welcomed everywhere, and not being ridiculed as memes on social media.

There is a toxic pride in imposing one's culture on unwilling audiences, and a thin line between celebrating one's culture and inflicting it. Supermarkets are places for grocery shopping, not cultural tableaus. An airport tarmac is not a festival ground.

To an extent this rise of intrusive behaviour parallels the rise of Indian confidence. In the last decade, we morphed from just another developing economy, to one within kissing distance of the world's third-largest economy. We moved from possessing a cumbersome passport, to one on which visa-free travel was possible to a handful of friendly countries. We moved from careful savers, to borrowing-driven spenders, from quiet, to somewhat belligerent.

There are several good things about civilisational confidence, none of which must be frowned upon, but there is nothing elegant about arrogance. There is even less merit in arguing that we must be allowed to behave as we please, because whites dominated us and pillaged us, and now it's payback time.

Indians must read history carefully. We were colonised by a small island nation centuries ago because we lacked national pride. We cut deals with invaders. Those deals served us individually rather than our community. We cannot rewind that and make up for it, by imposing our culture on an adopted country – white or otherwise, because after all, they have not allowed themselves to be colonised by us. They see us, like they see all immigrants, as enablers not intruders.

By all means celebrate festivals, sing songs, and dress up as divinities – but do it at home, in community gatherings, and in appropriate public spaces. Never apologise for being Indian. But for heaven's sake do not mistake national pride to be about littering movie halls with confetti, stealing from the breakfast buffet in Switzerland, to get a free lunch, and jumping airport queues because we want to leave a stamp of Indianness.

National pride comes from earning a place in the world, from heading some of the world's most powerful companies, from knowing that we can engineer missions to the moon at a fraction of Nasa's budget, from knowing that we gave the world the zero and chess, from being the highest-achieving immigrant community on earth, and from respecting others because we respect ourselves.

For everything else, there is always home.

Menon is an author & entrepreneur

Calvin & Hobbes

SUSIE, YOUR MOM JUST CALLED AND SHE'S WALKING OVER TO PICK YOU UP.
FINALLY!
I'LL TALK TO YOU IN A FEW MINUTES, UPSTAIRS.
BYE SUSIE! DON'T LOCK YOURSELF IN ANY MORE CLOSETS!
WE GOT RID OF A SLIMY GIRL! WHAT A GREAT DAY OF GROSSNESS!
THIS GOES IN THE LOG BOOK!
I'D SAY SOME PROMOTIONS, AWARDS, MEDALS, AND ADVANCED DEGREES ARE IN ORDER!
SHOULD WE GET THEM BEFORE WE GET IN TROUBLE, OR AFTER?

Sacred*space*

Protecting the environment of indigenous forests is protecting life, protecting genes, and protecting the mind... The forest is the root of all life: it is the womb that revives our biological instincts, that deepens our intelligence and increases our sensitivity as human beings.

Akira Miyawaki

We Will Never See A Poem Lovely As A Tree

Sumit Paul

The concept of forest bathing is rooted in the idea that immersing oneself in nature can have powerful effects on both the mind and soul. When we disconnect from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and focus on sights, sounds, and smells of the natural world, we can reset and recharge our mental and emotional batteries. Just as pressing the reset button on a device can clear glitches or bugs, forest bathing helps us clear negative or stressful thoughts and feelings that are weighing us down. By embracing the healing power of nature, we can find peace, clarity, and renewal within ourselves.

We're inherently linked to the earth and all its elements. Nature is not merely a destination to be explored and then abandoned; it is a constant presence in our lives that provides us with nourishment, solace, and a sense of belonging. By acknowledging nature as our home, we are more likely to treat it with respect and care that it deserves, recognising the vital role it plays in sustaining our own well-being and that of future generations.

In our fast-paced, tech-driven society, it can be easy to lose touch with the calming and rejuvenating power of nature. Taking time to immerse oneself in the beauty of mountains or tranquillity of the woods allows for a much-needed break from the chaos of daily life.

When we take the time to immerse ourselves in the natural world, whether through a leisurely stroll in the woods or a peaceful moment by a flowing river, we often find ourselves enriched in ways we never expected. Nature has a way of soothing our souls, healing our minds, and rejuvenating our spirits. It provides us with a sense of peace, clarity, and connection that is truly invaluable. In our fast-paced and hectic lives, it is important to remember the restorative influence of nature and to make time to seek solace in its beauty.

THE SPEAKING TREE

Even the storms, with their energy and power, can inspire us to face our own challenges with resilience. In the embrace of nature, our worries and cares can fall away like autumn leaves, allowing us to reconnect with ourselves and find inner balance. But the way we're treating nature and defiling our environment, the day is not far when the world will be bereft of natural bounties, and the deserts will welcome us with their endless sands and dry air. There'll be no zephyr, breeze coming to us, caressing the green leaves of trees and plants.

We still have time to save our environment and be in sync with nature. Much have we ravaged it. Now is the time to revive it. Let's take a pledge and remember the opening lines from Joyce Kilmer's poem, *Trees*, "I think that i shall never see/ A poem lovely as a tree."

Imagine, if nature is gasping for breath, what'll be our fate? Imbibe the rejuvenating spirit of 'forest bathing' before you lose forests forever. Let us hope and 'be-leaf' in a greener future.

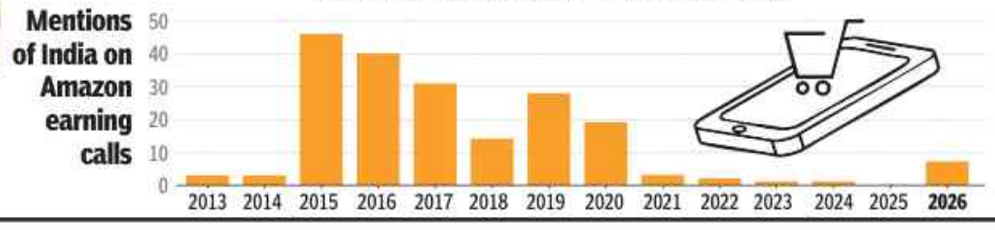
TIMES BUSINESS

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2026

Why Amazon Has Struggled To Dominate India Mkt

Amazon's global expansion has long rested on a simple conviction: capital, logistics and patience could overwhelm local rivals and political friction. Thirteen years later, the model hasn't quite worked as anticipated in the country

Source: Bloomberg



Amazon has said its investment in India will surge past **$35 billion** by 2030, but much of that will go to data centers dedicated to AI — not e-commerce. In a telling move, CEO Andy Jassy has asked his India team to focus on operational profitability — a milestone it achieved in the fiscal year through March 2025

Regulator Misunderstood Gold Refining Biz: Rajesh Exports

Mehta contests Sebi order on ₹15 lakh cr manipulation

Shilpa Phadnis & Partha Sinha | TNN

Bengaluru/Mumbai: A day after markets regulator Sebi banned Rajesh Mehta, the chief of Bengaluru-based gold refiner Rajesh Exports, for inflating the company's revenues over several years to induce investors to invest in the stock, the company said there was communication gap with Sebi that led to the regulatory decision. Mehta also stood by the company's consolidated revenue figure of Rs 7.8 lakh crore for FY26, Rs 4.2 lakh crore for FY25 and of the earlier years.

The Sebi investigation was initiated after a shareholder of the company complained to the regulator, alleging potential financial misrepresentation in the company's books. On Thursday, the stock price of Rajesh Exports closed at the 5% lower circuit levels on BSE and NSE. On the BSE, the stock closed at Rs 104.6 and on the NSE it was at Rs 103.9.

On June 3, Sebi in its interim order said that investigations showed between FY21 and FY25, Rajesh Exports had manipulated its revenues to show the group's consolidated aggregate number at Rs 15.2 lakh crore, for these years. In its 109-page order, Sebi said that over these five years, it misrepresented 99.8% of the total consolidated revenue. The order showed that a major chunk of the group's revenues over these years originated in Valcambi SA, its fully-owned Switzerland subsidiary, held through step-down arms. Valcambi SA is the world's largest refiner of precious metals like gold, silver and platinum.

When Sebi investigating officers and forensic auditors tried to verify the books of group companies, they found major discrepancies. The order also said that investigators and auditors couldn't find proof about the group's claim of buying gold mines in Africa. It also alleged that Mehta had traded in gold derivatives products on MCX in his personal account but the revenues were treated as that of the company's.

Mehta told **TOI** that allegations of such discrepancies were the result of confusion. "The revenues stated by the company in its periodic filings to the stock exchanges are perfectly correct. Instead of considering revenues, Sebi has, by mistake, considered EBITDA and concluded there is a large discrepancy. That is not the case. The revenues reported by the company are correct," Mehta said.

For FY26, the group's consolidated revenue was Rs 7.8 lakh crore while its India operations, Rajesh Exports, reported a revenue of nearly Rs 9,200 crore. According to Mehta, the standalone revenue is generated in India while the remaining revenue reflected in the consolidated number comes from its Swiss subsidiary, Valcambi, "Valcambi buys dore gold (a semi-pure, unrefined alloy of gold and silver) and other forms of unrefined gold, refines it into pure gold and sells it globally to banks, central banks, bullion dealers and others.

Asked about its consolidated net profit to be a tiny percentage of its huge revenue, Mehta said Sebi missed that gold refining is a very low-margin business. "When you refine and sell gold bullion, net profit margins are typically below 1%. EBITDA is usually around 1-1.5%. This is the standard trend globally. Sebi has not understood how a global gold refinery functions."

GLITTERING GAPS: QUESTIONS WORTH CRORES

On June 3, Sebi said Rajesh Exports, a Bengaluru-based company predominantly into refining of gold and other precious metals, manipulated its revenues. **Sebi's 109-page order alleged the company reported total revenues of about Rs 15.2 lakh crore over five years, FY21 to FY25, mainly originating in its Switzerland subsidiary, Valcambi SA.**

Valcambi SA is the world's largest refiner of precious metals like gold, silver, platinum etc. When Sebi investigating officers and forensic auditors tried verifying the books of group companies, they found major discrepancies

Sebi's Findings and Actions

- Sebi said the group's foreign arms reported only a fraction of the revenues that the holding company, Rajesh Exports, disclosed in India
- Sebi also said investigators and auditors couldn't verify the group's claim of buying gold mines in Africa
- The order pointed out that Rajesh Mehta, group's chairman, traded in gold derivatives on MCX in his personal accounts but it was shown in company's books
- Mehta has been banned from trading in the company's shares
- Rajesh Exports has been asked to cooperate with Sebi's investigators and forensic auditors

Compiled By: Partha Sinha

Rajesh Exports shareholding pattern (As of Mar 31, 2026)

Shareholders	% Holding
Promoters*	**54.55**
Rajesh Mehta	41.3
Prashant Mehta	12.6
Public*	**45.45**
LIC	10.8
Bridge India Fund	8.5
Schwab Fund ETF	2.7
Retail Investors	14.1
NRIs	5.3

*There are other minority shareholders
Source: ETIG, BSE

Rajesh Exports group structure

Rajesh Exports → REL Singapore → Global Gold Refineries AG → European Gold Refineries → Valcambi

Most of the group's revenue is generated here

Mehta told **TOI** gold refining is a thin-margin business, net profits below 1%. There's 'absolute confusion' and 'communication gap' between Sebi and co

India, US look at non-tariff measures

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: India and the US have discussed issues going beyond trade in goods to include non-tariff measures, customs and trade facilitation and economic security alignment, among other issues, an official statement said Thursday.

A team from USTR office was in India since Monday to advance negotiations on the trade agreement, which has been in the works for over 15 months now. "The engagements were marked by a spirit of cooperation and pragmatism, with both sides reaffirming their commitment to concluding a mutually beneficial agreement that strengthens bilateral trade and economic ties," an official statement said a day after the USTR proposed 12.5% additional tariff on India and over 50 other countries for their alleged failure to check the imports of goods using forced labour.

Both India and the US have maintained that the talks on the legal text of the proposed agreement are in the final stages. A decision on the rate of additional levy depends on how the Trump administration deals with the issue in the coming weeks as the 10% current levy expires next month.

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T&C Apply

Dow jumps to all-time high, Nasdaq up too

New York: Dow scaled an all-time high at over 51,550 and the S&P 500 rose on Thursday, while Broadcom's results fell short of high investor expectations, dragging down chip stocks and the Nasdaq in early trade. Broadcom shares slumped 14% after the chipmaker also maintained its long-range forecast of $100 billion in sales from its AI chips. The stock has climbed nearly 55% this quarter and could shed nearly $320 billion in market value if losses hold through the session. Nasdaq was up 6 points at 26,837.The S&P 500 tech index dropped the most, down 1.8%, while the Philadelphia SE Semiconductor index tumbled 2.8%. REUTERS

Don't sell yourself short: Citi CEO Fraser to India

Says There's Immense Interest In The India Story, Current Headwinds Are Temporary

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Citi's global CEO Jane Fraser has said that India should not "sell itself short" by focusing disproportionately on short term challenges. It should rather focus on execution and stay confident about its long-term story.

Speaking at the Citi India conference, Fraser said that while near-term headwinds persist, the structural case for India remains compelling and widely recognised by global investors. "Sometimes, domestically, there is a tendency to focus disproportionately on short-term challenges. Those exist in every market. But when you step back and look at the structural drivers—demographics, digital infrastructure, policy continuity, and capital formation—the picture is very compelling. International investors see that clearly. So the narrative within India should reflect that strength more confidently," she said.

Fraser emphasised that India's approach to growth sets it apart from many developed economies. "There are countries and there are companies that protect what they have and in the process they somewhat diminish what they have. Sadly, my original country, the UK, is one of those... many countries in Europe are one of those at the moment. Then there are countries and companies where they build what they need, even if that means constructing what they have. That's India... it may not always get star points. Doesn't matter because you get the results," she said.

Highlighting investor sentiment, she noted continued global interest in India despite intermittent volatility. "Flows may be volatile in the short term, influenced by global factors like US rates or geopolitical developments, but the allocation to India as a structural story remains strong. Investors are looking at sectors linked to domestic consumption, infrastructure, and increasingly technology and AI. The breadth of the opportunity set has expanded significantly," she said.

Fraser also pointed to the scale of investments underway in emerging technologies. "There are many large investments happening in AI infrastructure. For a country with so much talent in technology, there are exciting opportunities ahead," she said, adding that AI itself presents a dual challenge—driving growth while managing risks.

Fraser said that the current phase of global economic change is being shaped by corporate agility. "The source of resiliency in the global economy in the last few years—that's been companies... the adaptability and resiliency of companies that adjusted supply chains, that have had the balance sheet flexibility... we've all learned how to be agile, not just resilient but on the front foot," she said.

She added that rapid technological and economic shifts are accelerating dealmaking activity. "When things move so fast, it's cheaper to acquire things than to try and build it yourself in many instances... in a world where scale really matters, speed is almost as critical," she said, noting that M&A is increasingly being used to gain capabilities quickly. At the same time, she flagged strong capital-raising trends as companies invest in "growth, capex, and infrastructure".

> Flows may be volatile in the short term, influenced by global factors like US rates or geopolitical developments, but the allocation to India as a structural story remains strong. Investors are looking at sectors linked to domestic consumption, infrastructure, and increasingly technology and AI. The breadth of the opportunity set has expanded significantly

> There are many large investments happening in AI infrastructure. For a country with so much talent in technology, there are exciting opportunities ahead
>
> —JANE FRASER | CEO, CITI

ED arrests Deepak Cables MD Rao

Bengaluru: Enforcement Directorate (ED) sleuths arrested Deepak Cables India Ltd managing director Karuturi Venkateshwara Rao on Tuesday under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, and took him into 10-day custody. "ED initiated the investigation based on an FIR registered by the CBI against Deepak Cables India Ltd, K Venkateshwara Rao and others for allegedly cheating a consortium of banks led by SBI of more than Rs 899.3 crore by obtaining large credit facilities and diverting loan funds," the agency said in a press note. TNN

From RT Nagar garage to Valcambi owner

▶ Continued from page 1

That prediction appeared prescient. In the early 1980s, Rajesh and his brother Prashant borrowed Rs 1,200 from their elder brother and began trading silver jewellery. The business soon expanded into gold jewellery trading after the brothers secured a licence under the Gold (Control) Act.

Mehta's breakthrough came in 1989, when he set up a small export-oriented gold jewellery manufacturing unit in the garage of his RT Nagar home in Bengaluru. That venture would eventually become Rajesh Exports, the company now at the centre of what Sebi has described as one of the largest alleged financial misrepresentation cases in India's corporate history—an allegation that Mehta strongly denies.

Long before the regulatory scrutiny, however, Rajesh Exports grew rapidly from modest offices at Batavia Chambers on Kumarakrupa Road and later Brunton Road in Bengaluru, riding India's emergence as one of the world's largest gold markets.

It moved from jewellery exports into manufacturing, refining and eventually retailing, was listed on the stock exchanges in 1995, and later built a 10-acre manufacturing facility in Whitefield which employs 300 people.

While Oyzterbay's acquisition in 2006 brought Mehta into the broader public eye, it was the launch of Shubh in 2010 – with its flagship store on MG Road – that briefly electrified the jewellery market. Mehta splurged on marketing that played on his pricing model under which buyers would be charged only the stated rate-per-gram – replacing the multiple charges like wastage and making charges on top of the base price, and which often made jewellery pricing opaque for consumers.

In 2006, Rajesh Exports revenue was about $1 billion. Ten years later, it stood at $24 billion. But net profits remained relatively small, given low margins in the business. As his wealth rose, so did his ambitions. In 2011, he acquired Bengaluru's iconic Brindavan Hotel property on MG Road for about Rs 140 crore, then one of the city's most closely watched real estate transactions.

Another defining moment came in 2015, when he acquired Swiss precious-metals refinery Valcambi for $400 million in an all-cash deal. The acquisition transformed the Bengaluru-based company into a global gold player, and by the end of the last decade, publications ranked Mehta among India's wealthiest businessmen.

In 2022, he announced plans to invest about Rs 24,000 crore to set up what it described as India's first advanced Amoled display manufacturing facility in Telangana. The plan was to supply these displays to global makers of smartphones, televisions, tablets and computers. The company also outlined plans for a dedicated R&D centre focused on next-generation display technologies. As of now, like his retail brands, this project too seems to have reached a dead-end because of the Sebi investigations. When we spoke to him on Thursday, he sounded confident that he could convince Sebi his dealings are above board. Time will tell.

Not Mehta's first run-in with Sebi

This is not the first time Mehta has got into trouble with Sebi. Following investigations into Rajesh Exports' public issue in the late 1990s, Sebi found fraudulent and unfair trade practices, and issued orders in late 2002 and early 2003 prohibiting the company and Mehta from accessing the capital market and dealing in securities for three years. TNN

Samtani to leave Goldman Sachs by this year end

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Bengaluru: In a planned leadership transition, **Gunjan Samtani**, co-chairman of Goldman Sachs in India and country head of Goldman Sachs Services India, will leave the firm at the end of this year, concluding a 16-year stint with the investment bank. He will continue to serve as co-chairman through the transition period.

As part of the succession plan, Ken Castelino and Balaji Sivasubramanian have been appointed co-heads of Goldman Sachs Services India, while retaining their existing responsibilities. "As co-heads, Ken and Balaji will oversee all our activities across the firm's India centres, partnering with both global and local leaders—including the Bengaluru and Hyderabad Executive Councils—to advance our priorities. They will continue to work closely with Gunjan over the coming months to ensure a smooth transition," the firm said in an internal memo.

Castelino is head of global banking & markets-public in India and co-head of global equities electronic trading strats and engineering. Sivasubramanian is head of engineering in India and global head of enterprise partnerships engineering within platform solutions.

Samtani has been one of the key architects of Goldman Sachs' India GCC strategy, helping build a deep engineering talent base and expanding the scope of work executed from the country.

Goldman Sachs' India engineering teams have played a significant role in developing Atlas, the firm's low-latency trading platform that enables clients to perform historical analysis, build quantitative models using real-time market data and execute trades at high speed.

Gold ETFs see 1st monthly outflow in yr

Mumbai: India's physically backed gold exchange-traded funds (ETFs) recorded their first net monthly outflow in a year in May, as investors booked profits following a sharp rise in prices triggered by higher import duties, data showed on Thursday.

The outflow could reduce import demand in the world's second-largest gold consumer, helping narrow the trade deficit and support the rupee, one of Asia's worst-performing currencies.

INVESTORS BOOK PROFITS

Gold ETFs registered net outflows of $61 million, equivalent to 0.4 metric tons, in May, reducing total holdings to 116.3 tons, data from the World Gold Council showed. Despite May's outflow, gold ETFs have attracted net inflows of $3.5 billion so far this year. On May 13, India raised import duties on gold and silver to 15% from 6% as part of efforts to curb overseas purchases of the precious metals and ease pressure on the country's foreign exchange reserves. Following the announcement, domestic gold prices surged to Rs 164,497 per 10 grams, their highest level in more than two months. REUTERS

HDFC Bank asks agents to stop mobilising govt funds

Partha.Sinha@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: HDFC Bank, the largest private sector lender in India, has sent a mail to its agents informing them that effective July 1 they should stop mobilising fixed deposits and current account, savings account (CASA) funds from govt entities. The decision comes close on the heels of the bank paying Rs 45 crore incentive to MSRDC for fixed deposit mobilisations, a move that is currently under regulatory lenses.

On its part, HDFC Bank said its decision to stop its direct selling associates (DSAs) and other agents from mobilising funds from govt entities was prompted by the expansion of its branch network across India. And this decision has "no bearing with any other matter". Sources said that the decision to stop sourcing govt funds through the DSA and other third-party channels was taken much before the MSRDC matter was raised internally.

> We request you to please take note that no commission payout shall be applicable for CASA and (FD) business sourcing under (the govt) segment going forward even where such sourcing got done inadvertently
>
> —HDFC Bank mail to agents

Earlier this week, in a mail from HDFC Bank to its agents, it appreciated the work that they have done in "strengthening the portfolio" in the bank's ABC&P (Alternate Banking Channels & Partnerships) channel and "driving deeper market penetration."

Its DSA channel was "established with a focus on granular retail acquisition and financial inclusion." For this channel, commission payouts were "intended for business where incremental sourcing value is created through agent intervention, while avoiding overlap with existing bank-managed relationships," the mail noted.

TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2026

THE LEARNED MAN KNOWS THAT HE IS IGNORANT
— VICTOR HUGO

STEVEN SPIELBERG IS CONVINCED ABOUT EXISTENCE OF ALIENS, SAYS HIS MOVIE 'DISCLOSURE DAY' NOT A FICTION

SHIA LABEOUF GETS PROBATION AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO PUNCHING 3 BARGOERS IN US DURING MARDI GRAS

US lawmakers defy Trump in voting to end Iran war

Resolution, Though, Is Largely Symbolic And Must Clear Senate

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: For almost a decade during the Trump era, one of the enduring mysteries of American politics has been whether Republican lawmakers still possessed a functioning spine. Some rare sightings have been reported this week on Capitol Hill, where in a series of small but unmistakable acts of rebellion, GOP lawmakers are voting against the MAGA supremo's priorities, producing what Congressional observers describe as a rare and little-studied phenomenon: independent thought.

The biggest surprise came on Wednesday when the Republican-controlled House of Representatives voted 215-208 to approve a resolution aimed at preventing Trump from continuing the three-month-old war against Iran without congressional authorisation. Four Republicans — Thomas Massie of Kentucky, Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania, Tom Barrett of Michigan and Warren Davidson of Ohio — joined Democrats to support the measure.

The resolution remains largely symbolic and it must still clear the Senate, where Republicans have a 53-47 majority, and even if it passes there, it would almost certainly face a presidential veto. Overriding that veto would require two-thirds majorities in both chambers, making its chances roughly comparable to Iran voluntarily offering to pay America's war bill.

Still, the symbolic rebellion marked the latest congressional setback for a President whose grip on the GOP has been tight. The House vote was striking because Republican leaders had postponed a similar vote weeks ago when it looked likely to pass. Instead of disappearing, opposition grew.

Meanwhile, on the Senate side, lawmakers were expected to vote Thursday on amendments blocking the Trump administration's now-aborted plan to create a $1.8 billion fund to compensate people who Trump claims were wrongfully prosecuted or investigated by the Biden administration.

Among the Republicans leading the resistance is Senator Thom of North Carolina, who has pushed amendments to ensure the fund cannot be revived, and Senator John Cornyn of Texas, recently nixed by Trump in a Texas primary.

There is, however, an important rule governing Republican independence in the Trump era. The closer a lawmaker gets to retirement, the stronger their principles become. The joke on the Hill is that courage is most abundant among senators who have already announced they are not seeking re-election.

Yet something appears to be changing. The Iran war, rising economic costs, disputes over spending priorities and growing unease about executive power have created pockets of resistance. This doesn't mean Trump is losing control of the MAGA-infused GOP; he remains overwhelmingly popular with Republican voters. But Washington is a city that measures the smallest ripple, and by that standard, recent events qualify as a noticeable tremor. While the votes are still small, some GOP lawmakers are reminding Trump of an inconvenient constitutional detail: Congress is technically a separate branch of govt.

Reuters

A child plays inside a tent used as a shelter on the Beirut waterfront

Hezbollah rejects ceasefire in Lebanon clouding prospects of end of Iran war

Dubai/Beirut: The pro-Iran Hezbollah movement rejected a new ceasefire in Lebanon on Thursday and Israel said it would not withdraw troops from the country, undermining US President Donald Trump's efforts to halt fighting there to forge peace with Tehran.

Iran has made a ceasefire in Lebanon a condition for any peace deal with Washington, and has suggested in recent days that it could intervene directly in support of its proxy Hezbollah if Israel keeps up or escalates attacks there.

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun said the ceasefire would come into force within 24 hours of all concerned parties approving it. However, Hezbollah chief Naim Qassem rejected the Washington declaration, insisting "resistance will continue". There was no immediate response from Israel, Lebanon or the US to Qassem's remarks. Hezbollah is not a party to the US-brokered agreement reached between Israel and the Lebanese government on Wednesday, but would be required to halt attacks. Israel kept up strikes in southern Lebanon on Thursday and defence minister Israel Katz said Israeli forces would not be withdrawing from the area or halting operations in the country.

The Hezbollah announcement came as Israeli strikes killed at least four people, according to local authorities, and a UN peacekeeper was killed in the crossfire. REUTERS

COMING SOON: WORLD'S FIRST TRILLIONAIRE, BIGGEST IPO

Before this month ends, most likely by mid-June, Elon Musk's net worth will cross $1 trillion, adding nearly $300bn to the current Bloomberg estimate of $726bn. Musk will be history's first trillionaire, which is 1 followed by 12 zeroes. In rupee terms that's currently Rs 96 lakh crore.

Rocketing him to 'where no one has gone before' is his company SpaceX's record breaking public issue, which will raise $75bn—three times more than Saudi Aramco's $25.6bn IPO in 2019.

NET WORTH OVER THE YEARS

At **$1.1 trillion**, his net worth would be more than three times that of the next-richest, Google co-founder Larry Page. SpaceX is currently losing billions of dollars a year. The filing shows it lost $2.6bn from operations last year on $18.7bn in revenues

WORLD'S RICHEST	NET WORTH
1 Elon Musk	$726bn
2 Larry Page	$328bn
3 Larry Ellison	$286bn
4 Sergey Brin	$284bn
5 Jeff Bezos	$271bn
17 Gautam Adani	$115bn
25 Mukesh Ambani	$86bn

Source: Bloomberg

A decade ago, Musk was worth $11bn, nearly 1% of today's value. Since Trump's reelection in Nov 2024, his wealth has risen nearly 4 times

Musk, 54, has been the world's richest person for almost two years, but his climb to trillion-dollar fortune marks a new era of extreme wealth and underscores concentration of money in the tech era

His 2025 salary: **$54,080**

Starmer accuses Musk of stoking unrest in UK over teen murder

PM Keir Starmer accused Elon Musk of stoking unrest in Britain after the world's richest man used the murder of a British teen to say official UK police policy requires officers to be racist against White people.

Musk's remarks referred to the murder of 18-year-old Henry Nowak, who was stabbed to death by a Sikh man last year. Body cam footage released this week shows the killer, 23-year-old Vickrum Digwa, falsely convincing police that Nowak had racially abused him. After they handcuffed the victim, he died from his wounds at the scene.

"Musk again has been interfering in our politics in the last few days, trying to whip up division," Starmer told reporters in northern England on Thursday. "That is not who we are in Britain."

The Labour govt has frequently clashed with Musk since coming to power just under two years ago. After the murder of three girls sparked riots in the summer of 2024, Musk said "civil war is inevitable" in Britain, and he's also waded into a row over sexual exploitation gangs in northern England. BLOOMBERG

Kya bot hain! US may see AI 'doctors' in mainstream med

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: After decades of importing doctors from India, Iran, the Philippines and practically every country with a medical school and an airport, the US may have found a cheaper solution to its physician shortage, showing the way — right or wrong, the jury is still out — to the rest of the world, including India.

The Trump administration is planning to allow artificial-intelligence "doctors" into mainstream American medicine, accelerating a future in which the "person" examining your symptoms may have read every medical textbook ever written, passed every licensing exam ever devised, and yet never once held a stethoscope or a pulse.

The initiative is being led by Amy Gleason, a former nurse and healthcare executive who took over DOGE services after Elon Musk stepped down, and who became a true believer in the wonders of artificial intelligence inspired by ChatGPT correcting the misdiagnosis of her daughter who had spent more than a decade battling a debilitating autoimmune disorder. Gleason has now tasked by the Trump administration with bringing AI into the health care system as an adviser to health and human services secretary Robert F Kennedy, according to Washington Post.

The move comes at a delicate moment in healthcare history of the US, which spends more money on medicine than any nation on earth, yet somehow still struggles to find enough physicians willing to practice in rural communities and inner cities. The US produces roughly 30,000 to 35,000 new physicians annually, but it also relies heavily on foreign-trained doctors. According to the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG), 63,000 Indian-born physicians make up 21% of all foreign-born doctors practising in the US.

Now Silicon Valley believes it has discovered a more scalable import strategy. Instead of importing physicians, crank up AI. Besides addressing shortage and getting around xenophobia, there are other 'advantages". AI doctors do not complain about paperwork, they do not ask for malpractice insurance, they never take vacations, never-burn out, and never tell hospitals they would rather not work another 36-hour shift. Most importantly, they do not demand a six-figure salary.

For a system that spends 18% ($5.3 trillion) of its GDP on healthcare, where people pay $300 for a five-minute consultation, that sounds nirvana. Of course, doubters caution about "hallucinations". AI systems sometimes invent facts, misread symptoms and display the unnerving confidence of a first-year medical student who has just diagnosed every headache as a rare disease. But AI-in-medicine proponents argue that human physicians make mistakes too, and medical practice has never been error-free.

Sceptics though say that the difference is that when Dr Sharma or Dr Smith miss a diagnosis, everyone knows who they are. When AI misses a diagnosis, who will be held liable? Legal questions are already raging through the healthcare industry. Who gets sued when the AI misses cancer? The hospital? The software company? The physician who trusted the software? The answer appears to be: lawyers are still working on it.

And yet even physicians acknowledge the idea is not entirely crazy. Large language models (LLM) have already demonstrated incredible ability to absorb and recall vast troves of medical knowledge. Some have scored at or above passing levels on medical licensing examinations.

The arithmetic is certainly compelling. The world has eight billion people and nowhere near enough doctors. For billions of people, the real competition may not between an AI doctor and an AIIMS- or Harvard-trained one. It is between an AI bot and nobody. An algorithm available on a smartphone at 2am may not be perfect, but it is better than rushing to a clinic located a train, bus, and cab ride away.

Getty Images

THE ROBODOC

Pak company discovers oil reserves in Sindh province

Karachi: Pakistan's oil and gas company has made a major discovery of oil and gas reserves in the Sanghar district of Pakistan's southern Sindh province, officials said. The Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) said the discovery is expected to contribute towards bridging the country's energy demand supply gap through indigenous resources while augmenting the hydrocarbon reserves base of OGDCL and the country.

In a letter sent to the Pakistan Stock Exchange and the London Stock Exchange, the OGDCL has informed shareholders that a discovery was made in the Bobi and Dhamraki areas in Sanghar district last month. In the letter dated June 3, the OGDCL said they made an oil discovery from its exploratory well Bodi deep-1 which produced 2000 barrels of oil per day (BOPD) and 1.1 million standard cubic feet of gas per day (MMSCFD) at a choke size of 32/64 inch, with a wellhead flowing of 1,050 pounds per square inch (PSI).

The letter said the discovery came about on May 3, when the well was drilled to a total depth of 3,305 metres in the Sembaar Formation through OGDCL's in-house technical and operational capabilities. "Besides establishing a new exploration play, the discovery has de-risked analogous prospects in the region, opening new avenues for future exploration and resource growth," it said. PTI

Dawa hailed 'tiger of the mountains' for 'surviving on ice, one packet of biscuits'

▶Continued from P1

Thrall even "paid tribute" to Dawa on social media, saying, "RIP.. mero dai" (Rest in peace, my elder brother). In the 13-minute video posted on Instagram Wednesday, Thrall said, "Dawa sat down for a rest with his backpack. These guys carry huge loads..." He added, that he checked on Dawa before moving on. "I turned to him and said, 'Hillary, are you OK brother?' He said, 'Yes, yes, I'm fine, Chris. Please go.'"

Thrall said that as he descended, he saw a Polish climber from his team who "had frostbite and had run out of supplemental oxygen". He said, "I come from the British Royal Marines — we are taught to never leave anyone behind... I have only half a tank of oxygen left. Do I take the Polish climber who has frostbite, or go back for the Sherpa who is probably going to rock up and be fine like he has a hundred times before?" His account of events has not been verified.

Thrall said he shared oxygen with the Polish climber and descended with him, and later reported Dawa missing after reaching lower camps. After criticism mounted online over why he did not return for Dawa, Thrall said he was tired of being called a "murderer". Once Dawa was found alive, Thrall said he was "elated and so happy for him and his wonderful family".

The Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee (SPCC) cleanup team that had been removing route equipment spotted Dawa near Crampon Point and brought him down before he was flown to a Kathmandu hospital with frostbite and other complications. "He is in intensive care, but out of danger," a doctor at HAMS Hospital, Kathmandu said.

For climbers and guides, the part that stood out was not only that Dawa survived nearly six days without supplies, but that he moved through active crevasses and broken terrain. Nima Tenzing Sherpa, a high-altitude guide, told **TOI**, "Two days in a deep crevasse below Camp I after a full week in the death zone? Surviving on ice and one packet of biscuits at that altitude is an unbelievable feat of mental strength. He is a tiger of the mountains."

Several guides and climbers have raised questions about the delay in finding Dawa. Mingma C Sherpa, an independent high-altitude porter, told **TOI** climbers often made "dangerous assumptions" about Sherpas because of their experience. "Foreign climbers assume we are invincible — a dangerous mindset. When a client is told by a guide to move ahead so they can rest, they trust that expertise. Thrall made a textbook survival choice under brutal conditions."

EVEREST ENDURANCE

Height 8,848.86m
Lhotse 8,516m
Nuptse 7,861m
Camp IV 7,906m
Camp III 7,158m
Yellow Band (7,600m / 7,500ft)
Camp II 6,474m
Crampon Point (5,400m / 17,700ft)
Camp I 6,035m
Khumbu Icefall
Base Camp 5,364m
Dawa 'Hillary' Sherpa covered more than 12km from Yellow Band down to Crampon Point, less than 100 metres above the Base Camp

2006: Lincoln Hall (Australia) Abandoned at 8,600 metres after collapsing from severe cerebral edema. Survived night exposed to elements without tent, sleeping bag, or oxygen. Found conscious next morning calmly changing clothes on cliff edge

1999: Babu Chiri Sherpa (Nepal) | Spent record 21 consecutive hours on summit without oxygen to test human limits. Stayed awake all night to prevent drop in body temp, singing national anthem over radio. He died 2 yrs later after falling in crevasse near Camp 2

1996: Beck Weathers (US) Blinded and collapsed during brutal blizzard. Left for dead by two rescue teams. Awoke from 15-hour hypothermic coma, stumbled blindly back to camp, and survived despite catastrophic frostbite costing him right hand, fingers, and nose

Russian aircraft intercepted 11 times over a week in Baltic: France

Paris: French warplanes were scrambled 11 times over the last week as part of Nato's Baltic Air Policing Mission, France's armed forces spokesperson said on Thursday, describing the incursions as a higher-than-usual number of "provocations".

The mission protects the airspace of the three Baltic states — Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania — through rotating deployments of Nato fighter jets, filling gaps in their own capabilities. Aircraft are scrambled to intercept unidentified or non-compliant aircraft.

Guillaume Vernet told a weekly news briefing that the unusually high number of interceptions could signal that Moscow was seeking to flex its muscles in the same week it hosted its annual St Petersburg International Economic Forum. The incidents follow a series of cases in which military drones strayed into the airspace of Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, stoking fears that the war in Ukraine could spill over into Nato's northern borders with Russia. REUTERS

China targeting personnel via fake job ads: Five Eyes

London: China is targeting personnel linked to the English-speaking Five Eyes intelligence-sharing alliance — Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK and the US — on job websites to get access to classified information, the group said on Wednesday.

In a bulletin, the Five Eyes powers highlighted an "aggressive" online recruitment strategy where spies for Chinese military intelligence pose as workers acting on behalf of private businesses or think tanks. They then allegedly advertise for bogus jobs such as foreign policy or defence analysts, before pressuring candidates to provide "non-public" information.

"China's military intelligence services are using an increasingly wide array of professional networking sites and online job portals to target Five Eyes govt and military personnel," the group said.

The type of workers who may be targeted include security clearance holders, military personnel including those stationed in the Indo-Pacific region, and people with indirect or peripheral access to govt information, such as journalists or think tank employees. After posting the adverts, Chinese agents are said to trawl through applicants' CVs to find who might have access to useful information.

The job hopefuls are asked to write a report on topics such as China's relations with other countries, defence or trade, before being pushed for more sensitive information. Recruits are paid between a few hundred to several thousand dollars per report. AP

Dar did not share info about Iran's N-project with Rubio: Pakistan

Islamabad: Pakistan on Thursday rejected reports that deputy PM Ishaq Dar shared any information about Iran's nuclear programme with US secretary of state Marco Rubio during their recent meeting in Washington. Foreign Office spokesperson Tahir Andrabi rejected the reports.

Former CIA analyst Larry Johnson, quoting an unnamed source, claimed that Dar had a conversation with Rubio that "revealed what Iran is prepared to do to preserve its independence", which allegedly "alarmed" the top US diplomat. PTI

Iranian-French cartoonist and filmmaker Marjane Satrapi dies at 56

Paris: Acclaimed Iranian-French cartoonist and filmmaker Marjane Satrapi, a prominent advocate for women's rights, has died at 56, the French presidency said on Thursday. "Her passing marks the loss of a leading figure of French culture and an artist devoted to freedom, whose work carried a universal message and earned her immense international acclaim," the French presidency said in a statement.

President Emmanuel Macron and his wife "pay tribute to a remarkable artist who transformed an Iranian childhood into a universal fable," the statement said.

News broadcaster BFM TV and other French media reported Satrapi has "died of sadness" a little over a year after the death of her husband, Swedish film producer and actor Mattias Ripa, according to a statement from people close to the artist.

Satrapi is best-known for her monochrome autobiographical comic book and film "Persepolis," a coming-of-age tale set against the Islamic Revolution in her native Iran. "Persepolis" won the Film Critics Grand Prix at the Cannes Festival in 2007 and the Cesar Award for Best Adapted Screenplay in 2008, in addition to being nominated for Best Animated Feature at the 2008 Oscars.

AP

French media reported Satrapi has 'died of sadness' a little over a year after the death of her husband

The film, which details her life in Tehran as the wilful daughter of intellectual Marxists, is a reminder that Iranians are just like everyone else, Satrapi said in a 2007 interview in Cannes. "What we wanted to say is, if these people scare you, look closer: They have parents, they have lovers, they have hope, they have stories," she said. Iran at the time protested the movie's inclusion at Cannes.

Satrapi was born on Nov 22, 1969, in Rasht, Iran, but her parents sent her to Vienna in 1983 to finish her studies because of the extremism in their country following the 1979 Revolution. But Satrapi, who found Austria hostile, returned to Iran in 1989 to attend Tehran University, where she earned a degree in visual communications.

By the time she graduated, Satrapi decided she finally was ready to leave Iran. In 1994 she moved to France. She studied in Strasbourg and later moved to Paris. Her graphic novels also include "Broderies" (Embroideries) and "Poulet aux prunes" (Chicken with plums), which also was adapted into a film. As a filmmaker, she has directed several works including "La Bande des Jotas" (The Gang of Jotas) and "Radioactive", a biography about the Polish physicist Marie Curie.

Satrapi in 2023 coordinated the book "Femme, vie, liberte" (Woman, Life, Freedom) together with a group of artists and academics to illustrate the revolts that occurred in Iran after the death of Mahsa Amini in 2022 at the hands of "morality police". The work denounces the repression and lack of human rights that Iranian society, especially women, suffers at the hands of the Iranian regime, the foundation said.

Satrapi was elected member of the French Academy of Fine Arts in 2024. She was also offered France's highest award, the Legion of Honor, that same year but declined it. She argued that France was not doing enough to support Iranian people fighting for democracy. "Supporting the women's revolution in Iran cannot be reduced to photos or speeches," Satrapi wrote in a Jan 2025 letter to French authorities. "When people are fighting for democracy, we should support them." AP

DAILY PLANET

UK lawmaker to sue xAI over fake Grok bikini pics

Jessa Asato, a British legislator with the Labour Party, said on Thursday she is suing Elon Musk's company xAI for invasion of privacy. She alleged that fake images of her were created using the Grok chatbot without her consent in Jan after she criticised the spread of deepfake pornography online. She filed a claim Wednesday at the high court in London, citing misuse of private information under the Data Protection Act. She is seeking damages and says she wants to create a precedent that companies can be held liable for the design of their AI systems. "Nobody would be able to walk up to me in the street and strip me and put me in a bikini, and I don't see why anybody should be able to do that to me online, because the feeling, while it is not quite the same, is very similar," she said. "It is like somebody has digitally stripped me without my consent."

Artists threaten Venice Biennale: Dozens of artists participating in this year's Venice Biennale contemporary art show are threatening legal action if their names are not removed from the ballot allowing visitors to vote for the best national pavilion in the absence of a jury to award the prestigious Golden Lions. The protest letter said that the voting process "lacked transparency and accountability".

GOAL RUSH

11 Jun 2026 – 19 Jul 2026

TIMES SPORT | THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU
FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2026

"LAMINE YAMAL COULD BE READY TO PLAY ON JUNE 15. MAYBE A FEW MINUTES, MAYBE JUST PRACTICE SO HE CAN IMPROVE HIS CONDITION FOR THE SECOND MATCH. WE WILL HAVE TO EVALUATE."

—LUIS DE LA FUENTE
SPAIN COACH

Europe's Two-Nation Theory

Spain & France showcase strength that others can only dare to dream about

Dwaipayan.Datta@timesofindia.com

AP

EURO 2024, MUNICH: The world stands still as Lamine Yamal lets the ball fly into the French goal in the semis

The early 1980s were the grainy days of black and white television. For an Indian audience, getting used to the trickling taste of live coverage of the World Cup, Michael Platini, probably the world's most well known footballer then alongside Zico and Socrates, you could argue was still an unknown quantity. It wouldn't take too long though for the maestro to become a bit of a favourite with his silken touches, overall elegance and cerebral playmaking, somewhat of a footballing equivalent of GR Viswanath or John McEnroe (with one's humility and calm and without the other's temper tantrums).

For a budding fan of the global footballer then, it did hurt when Platini's France let go of a 3-1 lead in extra-time of the 1982 World Cup semifinal and eventually lose to West Germany in the tie-breaker. History remembers it as the 'Night of Seville'.

Even though France played brilliantly, "they lack the winning mentality," was the pundits' verdict. Maybe they were right, because four years later in Mexico, Platini's France, fresh from beating Brazil in a terrific quarterfinal, went down tamely to Germany in the semifinals. France failed to qualify in 1990 and 1994.

If that was France, often flattering to deceive, Spain presented an even more exasperating reality. Always present among the elite, perennial dark horses, they seldom rose above their billing. Hard to imagine that today they are the defining idea in the game, having carried the underacheiver's mantle for decades.

Such was their abject underachievement back then, that the 1980s famous 'vulture squadron' of Real Madrid was reduced to at best being a quiz question. After their dismal show as hosts in the 1982 World Cup, there was a glimmer of promise four years later with an Emiliano Butragueno four-goal haul — then a record for a single World Cup game tally — in the Round of 16 that sent Denmark packing. But then the familiar implosion happened against Belgian, an affair that was decided in the shootout.

Spain reintroduced themselves more convincingly through club football. Barcelona's Cryuff-coached Dream Team of the early 1990s, with Romario and Stoichkov in it, gave us the true taste of Spain. Still, those were not days of year-long European football beamed in India. And come the World Cup, chatter around potential favourites used to hover around Brazil, Argentina, Germany and Italy.

But all that began to change. First with France. In 1998 with Zinedine Zidane breaking the hearts of millions across the world with two piercing headers against Brazil in the Paris final. That broke the their World Cup jinx. Just Fontaine, the top scorer in 1958 with 13 goals, and Platini earned their redemption.

Spain had to wait. The two giants — Real Madrid and Barcelona — who made them such a force in club football were largely responsible for their numerous downfalls on the international stage. Their famed historical rivalry — a product of social, cultural and political differences — spilled over to the national teams over generations. After 1964 European championship, it took Spain 44 years, under the wily Atletico Madrid great Luis Aragones — the Wise Man of Hortaleza — to win another Euro in 2008. That, though, was the start of a revolution, and by 2010, it became a storm that reshaped world football. The 2010 team, comprising chiefly the golden generation of Pep Guarsdiola's Barcelona and coached by Real Madrid legend Vicente Del Bosque, won their first World Cup.

A 2010 feeling

This time around, there's a 2010 vibe to La Roja who will be travelling to the US as bookies' favourites to win. Under coach Luis de la Fuente, the reigning European champions are dominated by a talented Barca crop — eight of them could make the first XI with Lamine Yamal and Pedri leading the line. De la Fuente hasn't picked a single Real Madrid player for the first time in Spain's World Cup history. The 19-year-old Yamal is the closest Europe can come to matching Leo Messi. Many sbelieve that Pedri is on a par with Spain's greatest World Cup player — Iniesta, the man who scored Spain's World Cup-winning goal in 2010. A terrific group of Basque-origin players — Unai Simon, Mikel Merino, Mikel Oryzabel, Martin Zubimendi and Nico Williams — will complement the Barcelona superstars this time.

Nothing to match French attacking line

The one Real Madrid player, though, who has dribbled past his team's slump to score 42 goals in 44 games this season is not a Spaniard. French captain Kylian Mbappe is the two-time champion's biggest star, but the team is not only about him. Ousmane Dembele, the current Ballon D'Or holder and a member of the all-conquering Paris St Germain side, will shuffle positions with Mbappe — making it incredibly difficult for the opposition defence.

And then, there's a third front — Michael Olise. The Bayern Munich right-winger has the ability to dribble past strong defenders, and there are French experts who believe he can also be a perfect No. 10, filling the void of the supremely-versatile now-retired Antoine Griezmann — the unheralded architect of their triumph in 2018.

Such is France's might, that PSG's two super-talented wingers Desire Doue and Bradley Barcola are not even discussed. The beauty of France is that outgoing coach Didier Deschamps has two world-class players for virtually every position. The coach has managed egos of the superstars brilliantly over his 14-year reign making them a supremely consistent unit, and come July 19, they will love to give their manager a winning farewell.

SPAIN VS FRANCE
A MODERN RIVALRY

Two European giants. Six memorable clashes. One epic story.

EURO 1984 FINAL	FRANCE	2-0	SPAIN
	Platini (57') Bellone (90')		
EURO 1996 GROUP STAGE	SPAIN	1-1	FRANCE
	Caminero (85')		Djorkaeff (48)
EURO 2000 QUARTERFINAL	FRANCE	2-1	SPAIN
	Zidane (32') Djorkaeff (44')		Mendieta (38)
WORLD CUP 2006 ROUND OF 16	FRANCE	3-1	SPAIN
	Ribery (41) Vieira (83) Zidane (90+)		Villa (28 pen)
EURO 2012 QUARTERFINAL	SPAIN	2-0	FRANCE
	Xabi (19'), (90+1 pen)		
EURO 2024 SEMIFINAL	SPAIN	2-1	FRANCE
	Yamal (21') Olmo (25')		Kolo Muani (9')

In Germany, team still comes first

Chicago: Germany forward Kai Havertz says the team's attacking players are not competing against each other but working collectively towards success at the World Cup, which begins next week.

Speaking online in the first press conference since the team's arrival in the US on Tuesday, Havertz said it was a luxury to have such quality in the squad.

Germany coach Julian Nagelsmann boasts an array of forward options among the strikers and attacking midfielders, including Florian Wirtz, Jamal Musiala, Nick Woltemade, Lennart Karl, as well as Leroy Sane and Havertz among others.

"We have many options," Havertz, who scored in Arsenal's Champions League final defeat to Paris St Germain on penalties last week, said. "It is a very good problem to have. It is much better to have more good players than fewer in the team." Germany had Wirtz, Musiala, 18-year-old Karl and Undav in their starting lineup for a 4-0 win over Finland on Sunday, with Havertz absent due to his Champions League commitments.

Havertz said, "Undav's stats speak for themselves. In the national team he is an extremely important part. We, as players, know that. No one fears anyone." REUTERS

Reuters

HAVERTZ FOR GERMANY

57	21
appearances	goals

Code Yellow for Neymar, Brazil

CBF enforces control over leaving hotel, limits social media use

New York: The Selecao are serious about ending their 24-year World Cup title drought.

Brazil have set up base camp at the New York Red Bulls' new state-of-the-art training facility in Morristown, N.J., and are staying nearby at The Ridge hotel. Security at the site was one of the biggest selling points for the national team.

The Ridge is a private property, and during the World Cup the Brazilian Football Confederation will control who can enter and leave the hotel. It's part of a strict, internal "code of conduct" Brazil players must abide by, first reported by the Brazilian newspaper O Globo.

Family members of the players will stay in a different hotel, according to the report, and most activities going forward will be closed to the public. There are even limits regarding their use of social media, though it was unclear whether it was an outright prohibition.

The team landed in the United States on Tuesday and held its first training in New Jersey on Wednesday.

Neymar out for tune-up

Neymar will not travel with the team to Cleveland for their final World Cup tune-up Saturday against Egypt, it was announced Thursday.

Brazil's all-time leading goal-scorer has been sidelined since mid-May with a Grade 2 calf injury, but that didn't stop manager Carlo Ancelotti from naming him to the 26-man World Cup squad. As he prepares for his fourth World Cup, Neymar is receiving around-the-clock treatment in New Jersey, with time running short before Brazil's opening match against Morocco on June 12.

Global soccer reporter Fabrizio Romano reported Wednesday that not only wil Neymar be on the Brazil squad, he also will keep the historic No. 10 shirt, worn by the likes of Pele and Ronaldinho. Vinicius Junior, Brazil's best young attacker, has donned the No. 10 in international play when the 34-year-old Neymar wasn't on the squad.

"Vinicius Junior was asked about the possibility to take the No. 10, maybe for this World Cup," Romano reported. "The answer was saying it all about the relationship in the dressing room between Neymar and his teammates. (Vinicius) said, 'No chance. The No. 10 is for Neymar Jr.'" REUTERS

Getty Images

HARD AT WORK: Brazil's Casemiro (R) floors Endrick during training at Columbia Park Facility in New York on Thursday

TIME TO ASK APOLLO AI

SUMMER TRIGGER
Summer heat and poor air quality can increase the risk of asthma attacks by 30%.
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KNOW GROUP C

Country	Best finish	Path to finals
Brazil	Champions (1958, 1962, 1970, 1994, 2002)	5th place in South American Qualifying
Morocco	Fourth place (2022)	CAF Group E Winners
Scotland	Gr stage (8 times)	UEFA Group C Winners
Haiti	Gr stage (1974)	CONCACAF final round

A WORLD CUP PLACE DECIDED BY A CHILD

BACK PASS

Image AI

Spain and Turkey finished level after a two-leg playoff and a third match. There was no penalty shootout and goal difference was not used. The solution? Drawing lots. A young boy was asked to pull a name from a bowl. He picked Turkey. Spain were eliminated from the World Cup without losing the playoff series outright. Today the idea of a nation's World Cup dream being decided by a random draw sounds absurd, but in 1954 it was a perfectly acceptable FIFA procedure.

FANS BARRED FROM BRINGING WATER BOTTLES INTO STADIA

New York: FIFA has banned fans from bringing refillable water bottles into World Cup venues in a last-minute policy change that will force thirsty supporters to pay for bottled water, The Athletic reported on Wednesday. "For the avoidance of doubt, reusable water bottles may not be brought into the stadium," an updated stadium code of conduct read. A FIFA spokesperson said the rule change was taken on safety grounds, noting that several World Cup venues already barred the use of refillable water bottles.

AFP

WARMING UP: Argentina captain Lionel Messi, recovering from an injury, began solo training in Kansas City

ALGERIA UPSET DUTCH IN FRIENDLY

Rotterdam: Winger Anis Hadj Moussa scored on his home ground to give Algeria a surprise 1-0 away win over the Netherlands in their World Cup warm-up on Wednesday.

Hadj Moussa, who plays for Dutch club Feyenoord, cut in off the right wing and struck a powerful shot into the far corner four minutes from time to hand the North Africans a morale-boosting win at De Kuip, where he plays his club football. "This is not what you want in your farewell match," Dutch captain Virgil van Dijk said. Algeria goalkeeper Luca Zidane, sporting a mask after facial injuries suffered in April, made several good stops throughout the game to alleviate concerns over the keeper's position in the side.

"I absolutely hate losing; this was a match we should have won," a frustrated Dutch coach Ronald Koeman said.

DR CONGO HELD GOALLESS IN WARM-UP AGAINST DENMARK

Liege: The Democratic Republic of Congo warmed up for their first World Cup appearance in more than half a century with a 0-0 draw against Denmark on Wednesday. The clash in Belgium, where the Congolese have been preparing for the World Cup, could be their only preparatory match after a planned friendly against Chile in Spain on Monday was cancelled by local authorities.

Teenage Stars Ready for Breakthrough

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF PELE, MICHAEL OWEN AND KYLIAN MBAPPE, TEENAGERS TO WATCH OUT FOR

GILBERTO MORA (Mexico)

Gilberto Mora is Mexico's youngest-ever star ready for the global stage. Record-breaking debutant already trusted in big moments. Fearless midfield control beyond his years in pressure games.

Age: 17 (youngest player at the World Cup)

- **Midfielder** for Club **Tijuana** in Mexico
- **Helped Mexico** win the 2025 Gold Cup
- **Youngest player** to start and score in Mexican League (Liga MX) at 15
- Youngest Mexico debutant (16)

ENDRICK (Brazil)

Brazil's teenage sensation now stepping into World Cup spotlight. Real Madrid forward carrying elite expectations already. Natural goal scorer built for big tournament moments

Age: 19

- **Signed** by **Real Madrid**
- Revived form on loan at Olympique Lyonnais
- Former prodigy for Palmeiras
- Expected to compete for a starting role for Brazil

YAN DIOMANDE (Ivory Coast)

Bundesliga winger for RB Leipzig bringing electric pace to Ivory Coast. AFCON-tested teenager rising fast through European football. Direct dribbler who can change games in seconds

Age: 19

- **Winger** for **RB Leipzig**
- Played high-school football in Florida
- **Joined Leipzig** after impressing in Spain
- **Ivory Coast** since 2025
- Featured at the AFCON of Nations

IBRAHIM MBAYE (Senegal)

PSG wunderkind and Senegal's youngest-ever AFCON scorer. Champions League experience at just 18. Explosive finisher who thrives on the biggest stage

Age: 18

- **Forward** with **PSG**
- Youngest Senegal scorer in AFCON history (17 years and 344 days old)
- Made Ligue 1 debut at 16

UEFA Champions League winner with PSG

- One of Senegal's brightest attacking prospects

KENDRY PAEZ (Ecuador)

Ecuador's creative heartbeat already tied to Chelsea future. Teenage playmaker trusted at senior international level. Vision and dribbling to unlock tight World Cup defenses

Age: 19

- Attacking **midfielder**
- Regular for Ecuador's national team
- Signed by Chelsea FC in 2023
- Known for elite dribbling and creativity

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SNAP SHOTS

England crumble for 140

New Zealand's Kyle Jamieson took five wickets as England's first innings ended for 140 at Lord's on Thursday, where the visitors chose to field on a rain-disrupted first day of the three-match Test series. New Zealand were 61/6 in 19.2 overs at stumps.

Bharat announces retirement: India wicketkeeper-batter and former RCB player Kona Srikar Bharat, who played seven Tests between 2023-2024, on Thursday announced his retirement from international cricket. The 32-year-old made his debut against Australia in Nagpur in February 2023, though he got a call-up in India squad in 2019, while he played his last Test for the county against England in Visakhapatnam a year later.

WFI suspends five wrestlers: The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI)suspended five wrestlers, including U-20 Asian Championship trails winner Deepanshu, for four years after their birth certificates were found to be fake during a verification exercise in its crackdown on age fraud in the sport. The other suspended wrestlers are Tanuj Antil, Baljot Singh and Nikhil Dalal and Saket Drall.

Napoli confirm Conte exit: Italian Serie A runners-up Napoli confirmed on Thursday that coach Antonio Conte will leave the club after two years with former AC Milan manager Massimiliano Allegri tipped to take over. "Napoli announces that an agreement has been reached with Antonio Conte and his staff to part ways before the natural expiry of their contracts," the club said in a statement.

City consider legal action: Manchester City are considering legal action after Real Madrid presidential candidate Enrique Riquelme said he would sign the Premier League club's Norway striker Erling Haaland if elected. Riquelme, a renewable energy entrepreneur challenging incumbent Florentino Perez, made the pledge during an appearance on Spanish television on Wednesday, where he held up a Real Madrid shirt bearing Haaland's name.

Hindu Socials score: Mani scored four goals to power Hindu Socials FC to a 6-0 win against Kempe Gowda FC in the BDFA 'C' Division league in Bengaluru on Thursday. **Results:** Vel Socials 1 (N Somdhar 12) bt Netaji FC 0; East West FC 6 (Dhanush K 5, 27, 30; William S 19, 32, 34) bt Goans FC 0; Hindu Socials FC 6 (Mani 16, 34, 41, 44; Chidambaram Moorthy 9, 39) bt NP Kempe Gowda FC 0; Sporting Youths FC 0 drew with Shining Star FC 0; Freedom FC 4 (Siddhartha A 1, 31, 60+1; Arvind A 13) bt Indian Knights FC 1 (Prajwal KH 38); Minerva FC 4 (Sri Hari S 2, 9; Mohith 12; Manish J 58) bt Devanahalli FC 1 (Arkshith 54).

Falcon down Blues: The Falcon Hockey Club registered a 7-1 win over Coorg Blues Hockey Club in the KSHA Super Division Hockey League Championship in Bengaluru on Thursday. **Results:** Falcon HC 7 (Suresh 11, 43, Nitin 28, 32, 33, Shankar Patil 47, Appachu 49) bt Coorg Blues HC 1 (Bharath 41).

MIRRA LIVES UP TO PROMISE

Russian Teen Star Sets Up Final Clash With Polish Qualifier Maja

THE TIMES OF INDIA AT ROLAND GARROS

Prajwal.Hegde@timesofindia.com

AP

ECSTATIC: Mirra Andreeva reacts after her win over Marta Kostyuk on Thursday

After 77-minutes of high-intensity tennis, Mirra Andreeva let the emotion pour out. She dropped her racket, clenched both fists and yelled, "Come on!" at the packed Philippe-Chatrier crowd before throwing her head back and roaring toward the roof above.

It was a fitting release for a player whose big-match mettle has been scrutinised almost as closely as her abilities. The 19-year-old held herself together superbly on a cold evening at Roland Garros, brushing aside Marta Kostyuk 6-1, 6-3 to reach the French Open final and become the fifth-youngest woman to achieve the feat.

Andreeva was so focussed on Thursday she was seeing individual hair on the fibrous felt. "I could see those hairs on the ball, but one thing is when you see the hairs on the ball for a couple of points and another thing when you're able to do it throughout the whole match," she said. In Saturday's final, she'll play qualifier from Poland the 114th ranked Maja Chwalinska, who edged out the 25th seed Diana Shnaider 7-6 (4), 6-4 to become just the second qualifier to reach a Grand Slam final in the Open Era.

From the opening game, it was clear the teenager had come armed with a plan. As solid as steel from the baseline, she used the court with the imagination of an interior decorator, varying not only her placement but also her spin, chipping and slicing, all the while making intelligent use of the wet and windy conditions.

The performance served as a reminder that there has never been any doubt about Andreeva's talent. She announced herself at Roland Garros as a 16-year-old in 2023, coming through the qualifying draw to reach the third round on her Grand Slam main-draw debut. But it was also on the Paris clay that spring that questions about her temperament first surfaced. During her third-round defeat by Coco Gauff, a frustrated Andreeva repeatedly took her anger out on the ball as the match slipped away.

Similar episodes have resurfaced over the past 12 months. Andreeva arrived at last year's French Open on the back of WTA 1000 titles in Dubai and Indian Wells and produced another strong run to the quarterfinals, where she faced France's Lois Boisson.

Yet she appeared to find herself battling not only her opponent but also a fiercely partisan French crowd. As the atmosphere intensified, the Russian's game unravelled. There have been similar moments since, notably at Indian Wells earlier this year and again in Madrid. In that sense, against Kostyuk, 23, represented an uncomfortable match-up for the Russian. Not only had the Ukrainian won both of their previous meetings in straight sets, but Russia's invasion of Ukraine has left Russian players facing hostile receptions in some arenas. With the Chatrier crowd throwing its support emphatically behind Kostyuk, the question was whether Andreeva could maintain her composure.

As chants of "Come on, Marta" echoed around the stadium, Andreeva responded by moving 3-0 ahead in the second set. When rain began to fall in the sixth game and the roof started to close, the noise inside Philippe-Chatrier only intensified. Kostyuk seized the moment, breaking Andreeva for the first time. When an Andreeva drop shot found the net, the roar from the stands was deafening, and Kostyuk cut the deficit to 4-2.

This time, however, she did not waver. Andreeva won two of the final three games to close out the semi-final and improve her clay-court record for the season to 21-3.

ERRANI-VAVASSORI WIN

Sara Errani and Andrea Vavassori retained their mixed doubles title defeating Evan King and Gabriela Dabrowski 4-6, 6-3 (10-4).

Kohli out of Afghan series, Rohit doubtful

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New Chandigarh: The Indian ODI team picked for the three-match series against Afghanistan starting from June 13 is hit by injury concerns. It has emerged that **Virat Kohli** is set to miss the series due to a hamstring injury while there is no clarity about Rohit Sharma's fitness. Ruturaj Gaikwad could be flown in for the series.

"Official communication will come on that. It's obviously big news when it's someone like Virat or Rohit,

CRICKET

but the same protocols will be in place," India's assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate said on Thursday. "We'll assess the fitness of those guys and we've got a few days now to decide whether they're fit enough to play and be part of the squad and make adjustments accordingly," he added. TOI understands that clarity will be given on June 6 after the selection meeting to pick the T20I and ODI teams for the Ireland and England tour besides the Asian Games squad and the India 'A' squad for a red-ball tour.

Kohli sustained the injury in the IPL final last Sunday and may need another fortnight to recover. Rohit and Hardik Pandya have been picked for the series subject to fitness. Rohit is reportedly nursing an injured hamstring while the selectors need assurance about Hardik's ability to bowl 10 overs in an ODI at full tilt.

IYER FRONTRUNNER

TOI understands Shreyas Iyer could be given the T20I captaincy in place of Suryakumar Yadav. Tilak Varma is also tipped to become the new T20I vice-captain.

BUMRAH IN FOCUS

The selectors will also take stock of Jasprit Bumrah's workload before the UK tour. The selectors want him absolutely fit for the two-Test series in Sri Lanka in August. He may be given a break from T20Is, if not ODIs, as well.

'I feel I focus too much on chess'

Amit.Karmarkar@timesofindia.com

Oslo: R Praggnandhaa may be an elite chess player, travelling the world and pitting board moves with the best in business, but he sometimes misses the things that would excite a regular 20-year-old.

"I don't really regret it, but I would have loved to have some school friends or college friends back home," he said here after his eighth round win over world No. 1 Magnus Carlsen in the Norway chess, "But when I'm going for something much bigger (top chess titles and excellence), I'm happy with how things are right now."

Pragg's mentor V Anand has always urged parents to think twice before allowing young chess prodigies to skip school or college education, as that helps shape a more well-rounded life with hobbies, friends and things beyond chess.

"Sometimes, I do feel that I focus too much on chess. There are some other things that I want to try," said Pragg who held the record of being the world's youngest ever International Master (IM) at age 10, "Having a break (from chess) or having a different hobby could help chess as well. It's not like I don't have (a hobby). Sometimes, I get excited by some books."

QUOTE UNQUOTE

Pragg conceded that hectic schedule has affected his play.

"At some point, you are just burnt out. You don't have energy. Even if you have physical energy, you just don't have mental energy to do the same thing again and again. At some point it just becomes automatic that you just don't enjoy it anymore. That's why the breaks are important," he said. Pragg said he had travelled to seven countries in three months at one point which is too much for anyone, especially if you are going to fight it over the board and not visiting as a tourist. "But you know, it's me who signed up for all these tournaments, so I have to take it, whatever that comes."

Pragg said he has decided to play less this year but added in the same breath that he could end up playing all important events. (The correspondent is in Oslo on invitation of Norway Chess)

Bibisara triumphs

Bibisara Assaubayeva won the Norway women's elite chess tournament with a round to spare on Thursday. The world No. 4 Kazakh drew her ninth-round classical game against Anna Muzychuk to gain one point and take an unassailable lead with 16.5 points. TNN

Sindhu exits

Jakarta: Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu suffered a second successive defeat to world No. 1 An Se Young in as many weeks to bow out of the Indonesia Open here on Thursday. Sindhu, who had also lost to the South Korean in the quarterfinals of last week's Singapore Open, went down 17-21, 14-21 in the round of 16 clash. In men's singles, Ayush Shetty lost to Lee Cheuk Yiu of Hong Kong 21-16, 13-21, 14-21.

Meanwhile, the men's doubles pair of Hariharan Amsakarunan and MR Arjun upset higher ranked Malaysian duo of Aaron Tai and Kang Khai Xing from a game down to reach their first ever BWF World Tour Super 1000 quarterfinals. Hariharan and Arjun won their round of 16 match 16-21, 21-15, 21-19. PTI

Syed Asif

GOLDEN LEAP: Pavana Nagaraj wins the women's long jump

Arya, Spruha shine

Bengaluru: Arya S eclipsed the meet record to clinch the gold medal in men's long jump on the opening day of the State Athletics Championship here on Thursday.

IN FOCUS: Arya (left) and Spruha threw 48.83m.

Arya touched down at 7.98m to better the 7.91m mark set by Samsheer SE of Dakshina Kannada in 2019. Second-placed Purushotham also bettered the previous mark with a leap of 7.97m. Siddarth Mohan Naik took bronze with 7.35m. The day's second meet record came in women's hammer throw as Spruha Naik She bettered the 46.54m mark set by Amreen of DK in 2022. **Select results: Men: 800m:** Boparna KT (1:48.33), **1500m:** Kalyan (3:50.29). **Women: 100m:** Prakruthi (11.65s) **400m:** Priya (54.67), **Shot put:** Ambika V (13.75m). TNN

BJP yet to name candidates from Karnataka and Jharkhand

▶ Continued from page 1

In fact, none of the outgoing Rajya Sabha MPs were repeated by the governing party. A number of organisational functionaries have been picked, including national general secretary Tarun Chugh and BJP's former Rajasthan state president Satish Poonia, for their likely debut as parliamentarians.

BJP is yet to name its candidates from Jharkhand and Karnataka, where it is guaranteed one seat each, keeping open the possibility that it can yet renominate any of the two ministers. The chances, however, appear slim as it may prefer a local face from these states where it is in opposition. The two ministers can retain their office for six months in case they are no long members of Parliament after their term ends on June 21.

In 2022, Cabinet ministers **Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi** and R C P Singh had quit before their Rajya Sabha term was over, and later were not renominated to the House.

An overhaul of BJP's team of national office-bearers is also due after Nitin Nabin took over as party president in Jan and has been rather active since, touring across states to gather feedback and tone up its organisational machinery.

Among the Rajya Sabha candidates, BJP has named its state president A Sharda Devi from Manipur, former state president Tai Tagak from Arunachal Pradesh, and from Gujarat, Rajubhai Shukla, Mukeshbhai Rathwa, Mansingh Parmar and Jitendra Kanzariya.

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We are no longer part of INDIA bloc: DMK

LS Secretariat Allows Seats Away From Cong

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: DMK is no longer part of INDIA bloc, party spokesperson TKS Elangovan said on Thursday. He made the statement to ANI, hours after DMK headquarters issued a

press statement saying the party would not participate in the alliance meeting to be held in Delhi on June 8.

The decision came after Congress, a long-time DMK ally, severed its ties with the Dravidian party to join the TVK-led govt in Tamil Nadu. "DMK cadres were upset at Congress betraying the party after the assembly election. To give respect to their sentiments, DMK will not participate in the INDIA bloc meeting. In short, DMK will not participate in the meeting in which Congress participates," it said in a statement.

DMK functionaries said its MPs would, however, support other parties in the alliance when they raised issues affecting the common good. Earlier, there were rumours that DMK might not be invited for the meeting in Delhi since it was unsure whether it was still in the bloc. The party had got an invitation.

Meanwhile, PTI reported that Lok Sabha secretariat had approved DMK MPs being seated away from Congress members. The move came after DMK's **Kanimozhi Karunanidhi** wrote to Speaker Om Birla requesting a change in the seating arrangement in view of the changed political circumstances. DMK MPs are yet to be assigned new seats.

Congress, which contested 28 seats as part of the DMK-led alliance and won five, supported the C Joseph Vijay-led govt in return for two ministerial berths.

Party eyes structural reforms after poll rout

Hit hard by the defeat in the polls, DMK has begun the process of making structural changes to improve organisational efficiency. Former chief minister M K Stalin held a meeting with party seniors on Thursday to discuss ways to strengthen DMK. Netas said one of the key proposals discussed by DMK was a succession plan to general secretary Duraimurugan. Party sources said the names of a few seniors were being discussed, but the talks were in the preliminary stages. The key name proposed as a replacement for Duraimurugan was party treasurer T R Baalu. Since Baalu was also over 80 years old, a section of the brass felt younger party members who could be more proactive should be considered. "No decision has been taken yet," said a DMK leader. TNN

TN to stick to 2-language policy of DMK

Chennai: Staying non-committal on implementation of PM Schools for Rising India (PM-SHRI) in Tamil Nadu, the state's school education minister **Rajmohan** said Thursday that the

TVK govt would stick to the two-language policy of the DMK dispensation.

He hit out at the central govt for holding back funds over non-implementation of the three-language formula under the New Education Policy, saying it was unacceptable. "If the Centre denies us funds citing this as a reason, we will go to New Delhi, if needed, to directly negotiate and get our share," Rajmohan told media persons, after distributing textbooks, uniforms and other stationery to children at a govt school in Arumbakkam, Chennai. The minister's response comes in the wake of the state govt not taking a clear stand on the PM-SHRI scheme. TNN

Amid 'cold feet' buzz, only 32 of TMC rebels turn up for meeting

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kolkata: Trinamool Congress's post-split turmoil played out on Thursday along divergent tracks, with several Lok Sabha MPs receiving feelers to dump the Mamata Banerjee-Abhishek Banerjee duo amid signs that some among the 58 MLAs of the breakaway group may have developed cold feet.

Only 32 of the rebel MLAs who picked expelled colleague Ritabrata Banerjee as the leader of the opposition attended a scheduled meeting in the assembly, reinforcing speculation that all's not well within the group.

Sources said 16 of them indicated they may walk away unless ex-CM Mamata was declared party "chairperson" instead of "chief adviser", as announced by Ritabrata. "We want her to remain the chairperson of our party. Our political careers have grown under her shadow," MLA Gulshan Mullick said.

Rumblings within the rebel bloc didn't ease Mamata's troubles though. Speaker Rathindra Basu ruled the expulsion of Ritabrata and Entally MLA Sandipan Saha, named deputy leader of the opposition, by the Trinamool brass invalid. "Per the party's constitution, a show-cause notice must be served and time given to respond. Expulsions can't happen abruptly in a day. They (the rebel group) have the required number of legislators, so I accepted their letter," he said. Ritabrata and Saha were expelled for "anti-party activities" after they alleged that their signatures and that of several other MLAs had been forged in the letter originally recommending veteran Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay as LoP.

Bidhannagar mayor quits

Bidhannagar: Krishna Chakraborty resigned Thursday as the mayor of TMC-run Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation (BMC) which covers Kolkata's upscale Salt Lake, a day after city mayor Firhad Hakim reportedly expressed his desire to quit following the party's assembly poll rout.

Kharge among 7 Cong nominees for RS elections

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Congress has announced names of seven candidates for upcoming Rajya Sabha elections. Party president **Mallikarjun Kharge** will file his nomination for Upper House from Karnataka.

Local candidate Mansoor Ali Khan and AICC spokesman Pawan Khera are the other two candidates from Karnataka.

In Jharkhand, Congress has decided to field Pranav Jha, who is an advisor to Congress president. The party is learnt to have eked out the seat from JMM after hectic negotiations. Jha belongs to the state, which is ruled by a rainbow coalition of JMM, Congress and RJD.

AICC data analytics department chairman Praveen Chakravarty will contest the lone seat coming up for election in Tamil Nadu. While Congress has only five MLAs in state, the TVK govt led by Vijay has given the seat to party at its request. Chakravarty was a strong advocate of Congress allying with TVK before the recent state elections.

White paper paints grim picture of Kerala finances

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala's new Congress-led UDF govt has inherited a fiscal minefield — outstanding liabilities of Rs 5.07 lakh crore, equivalent to 35.5% of gross state domestic product, and unpaid obligations of Rs 48,733 crore after a decade of CPM-led LDF in office, according to a white paper tabled by CM **VD Satheesan** in assembly Thursday.

The report, one of Satheesan's key promises after UDF swept April elections, paints a stark picture of a state caught in a debt trap, squeezed by mounting arrears, chronic treasury stress and shrinking room for development spending. It says committed expenditure on salaries, pensions and interest payments swallowed nearly 77% of Kerala's revenue receipts, leaving little fiscal elbow room.

Calling it a baseline assessment of state finances, the white paper argues Kerala drifted away from the principle that borrowings should fund productive assets. Despite posting one of India's highest fiscal deficits, capital expenditure stood at just 1.3% of GSDP — less than half the national average.

The report pins responsibility on ballooning committed expenditure, sluggish revenue growth, reduced central transfers, off-budget liabilities linked to Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) and mounting losses at state-run enterprises.

India was large importer of Venezuelan crude

▶ Continued from page 1

After having taken control of Venezuela's oil industry, the US had pushed India to resume procurement from the country that has in the past been a key energy partner for India. India was one of the largest importers of Venezuelan crude in 2020 when it halted purchases because of US sanctions.

US secretary of state Marco Rubio had first announced, ahead of his visit to India last month, that Rodriguez would soon be visiting India. According to Indian officials, the message from the acting President was that Venezuela is open for business, and there are great opportunities for India as it looks to diversify its supplies at a time the Strait of Hormuz remains choked by the US-Iran conflict.

Pinal Bhattacharjee

President Delcy Rodriguez with PM Modi on Thursday

"What did emerge from the interaction of the two leaders was that the Venezuelan energy sector is undergoing a fundamental transformation. They see India as a stable demand for many years to come. Therefore, there exists a perfect complementarity for India and Venezuela to work in the energy sector," said MEA secretary (east) Rudrendra Tandon.

Japan PM may visit India next month for talks

New Delhi: Japan PM **Takaichi Sanae** is likely to visit India next month for a summit meeting with her counterpart Narendra Modi. While a confirmation from Indian authorities is still awaited, Japanese media reported that the summit meeting with PM Modi will take place in Assam.

"Govt sources say arrangements are underway for Takaichi to visit the northeastern state to hold her second in-person meeting with Modi," said a report by NHK. The two had earlier met on the margins of the G20 summit last year. TNN

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